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COUNTY VOICE

The Voice of the Haliburton Highlands - Locally Owned and Operated



Snowboarder Daniel Jackett does his first front roll on opening day of the new Sir Sam's season. Four runs were open as of Saturday as another ski and snowboard season kicks off at Haliburton County's only downhill resort. Photo by Terrance Gavan

Dysart reeve returns to role as county warden

By Mark Arike

County council was sworn in and a new county warden appointed during an inaugural ceremony held at council chambers in Minden on Tuesday.

Following the swearing in of eight representatives from across the county, a call for nominations for county warden was put out to the group by County of Haliburton CAO Jim Wilson. Highlands East Reeve (and past warden) Dave Burton stood up and nominated Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey.

Dysart et al deputy reeve Bill Davis seconded the nomination and stated his reasons for doing so. "Murray and I have served a considerable time together," explained Davis. "I refer to Murray as a senior statesman of municipal politics in Haliburton County."

With no other nominations from the floor, Fearrey was asked to come to the front of the room to accept the position of warden by acclamation. The warden's jacket and the chain of office were presented to Fearrey by Burton, his predecessor, after Fearrey took his oath of office. "It's an honour and privilege for me to present you with this robe of office," said Burton.

"I'm going to wear it out," said Fearrey, who's now held the warden's position 10 times. Rick Johnson, MPP Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, was at the event to extend his congratulations to the elected individuals.

"This democratic process that you've all taken part in is something that our fathers and grandfathers fought for," said Johnson of the democratic process. "The fact that you've put your names forward is something that nobody can understand unless they've actually done it."

He also provided tidbits of advice, urging new councillors to learn from those who have served for the county for many years.

"Councillors, rely on that experience," said Johnson. Fearrey closed the ceremony with his remarks in which he reminisced about the past and looked towards the future. "The first time I sat at this table was 1973," he explained, "and there was 19 county councillors. All the county had at that time was the roads system, library system and the land division committee - and very little else."

Fearrey said that one of the biggest visible changes today is the number of women who sit at the council table. "Isn't that good to see?" he laughed, generating a round of applause from those in attendance.

Fearrey went on to look ahead at the future and forewarned councillors of some of the challenges that lie ahead.

"There are two directions that we can go," explained Fearrey. "We can carry along the path that we've always gone or we can choose to be more creative," he said, pointing out that times have changed and that some tough times might be coming once government stimulus funding comes to a halt.

"We need to be a team like we never have before," he said. Others sworn into office at the evening ceremony included: Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid, Dysart et al Deputy Reeve Bill Davis, Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt, Algonquin Highlands Deputy Reeve Liz Danielsen, Highlands East Reeve Dave Burton, Highlands East Deputy Reeve Suzanne Partridge, and Minden Hills Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch.

Local groups disappointed at the Beaver Theatre's loss

By Jerry Grozelle

It's been nearly a year since the Beaver Theatre in Minden reopened briefly after undergoing major renovations, only to close again a short time later when a flood in the basement undermined the foundation. It wasn't only the theatre's owner who had big plans for the building and a year later the disappointment that the venture suffered such a fate remains strong.

Barrie Martin, representing the Haliburton County Folk Society, said he was excited over the prospects of the Beaver Theatre as a live

music venue.

"Our main focus is to bring live music to Haliburton County and one thing we've been wanting to do more of is having live music in more locations," he said. "We tend to use the Village of Haliburton more than other locations and part of it is the lack of good venues. So we were very excited when we heard that the Beaver Theatre was going to open up because that represented a good mid-sized venue in Minden. We had had some initial discussions about booking some concerts there."

He said the size of the theatre was a good feature, offering a more intimate atmosphere

than the Northern Lights Performing Arts Centre in Haliburton. Seating capacity at the Beaver Theatre was about 150, compared to 225 at the Northern Lights. "So, it was going to be a nice mid-sized venue, a bit bigger than a number of other venues," he said. "That would have been great and, of course, it was quite nicely decorated and we were quite excited at the prospects."

"It was a real disappointment for the Beaver Theatre not to be available to us for concerts," Martin said. "We definitely need to make some more things happen in Minden."

The dinner group, The Conjurers of County

Town, had also been planning to utilize the facility.

"We have been kind of interested in a smaller theatre venue to put on stage readings and small productions," said Michael Fay, one of the founders of the group. "We thought that it would be an interesting potential venue. We were interested in the capacity of the theatre to put on live performances. I was exceedingly excited about its potential. I have always felt that Minden needed a first class performance facility and that was headed in the direction of the future with all that multi-media capacity."

(more on page 2)

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Algonquin Highlands council inauguration ceremony well attended

By Jerry Grozelle

It's official. The new council for the Township of Algonquin Highlands has been sworn in front of a full council chamber of family, friends and supporters. After the ceremony, Reverend Peter Walford-Davis offered a prayer asking for guidance through the next four years as council members face the daunting challenges as they perform their duties on behalf of the people of Algonquin Highlands.

As the new reeve, Carol Moffatt said the next four years are not going to be easy. "We have some work ahead of us," she said. "We're all brand new; we hardly know each other."

"There are still some people in the community who are a little bit grumpy about the election results; we're short a couple of key staff positions, which we normally rely on to lead us through; and we have several big issues to discuss, not the least of which is the airport expansion project. These challenges will force us to jump in with both feet, in the deep end, in cold water. Our first meeting is Thursday and we have some really big items to discuss."

Moffatt said that with every challenge is an opportunity. She noted that the new council will be working, not only with the current staff, but with some new key members to develop a new vision for the community. "Most importantly, we have the chance to rebuild the fractured relationship the township has with the people," Moffatt said.

"I know there are some expectations of me as the reeve and believe me, I have the same expectations of the public and the council and the staff. I think it's fair all the way around. Growing up, my dad always said when my brothers and I wanted to do something stupid: 'the Browns may do it and the Joneses may do it, but the Moffatts don't do it'. I know it sounds a bit trite, but with that line of thinking, I'd like to ask us to work together to be the council to emulate and the community to envy as we move forward with these challenges."

(more on page 13)



Christmas arrives early for two County residents

Lynn Bartlett and Jonathon Sharpley were presented with the winning gift certificates for the Haliburton Christmas Scavenger Hunt Contest at The County Voice office this week. The grand prizes of a \$625 gift certificates were awarded to Lynn by salesperson Monica Horning and sales manager Walt Griffin, and to Jonathon by Voice Editor Stephen Patrick. Both contestants successfully went to all 25 area merchants to collect the letters and to spell the mystery words HALIBURTON'S MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Why two winners? Let's just say Santa's ever-generous elves took an early run at the Voice office and when we made the draw, two names popped out!

\$4,000 in fines for numerous hunting offences

Three men belonging to a Bancroft-area hunting camp have been fined a total of \$4,000 for 14 hunting offences.

The men, members of the Bear Shanty Hunt Camp, pleaded guilty to numerous offences including failing to comply with conditions of a court order, possessing a void licence, using a void licence and making a false statement in an application. Lionel Towle, of Whitby, and Deane Card, of Bancroft, each pleaded guilty to the four counts and were fined \$1,500 each and had their hunting licences suspended for five years.

Paul Varty, of Cameron, pleaded guilty to failing to comply with conditions of a court order, two counts of possessing a void licence, two counts of using a void licence and making a false statement in an application. Varty was fined \$1,000 and had his hunting licence suspended for six years.

The court heard that Towle, Varty, and Card, along with five other members of the Bear Shanty Hunt Camp, had pleaded guilty to more than 30 offences before the Bancroft Provincial Offences Court on June 2, 2009. The charges were in relation to the illegal

harvesting by members of the Bear Shanty Hunt Camp of two moose that were shot by Lionel Towle during the 2008 regular moose season. As a result of that case, each of the men was issued a Provincial Court Order prohibiting him from applying for, or possessing a hunting licence during this time. They were further ordered not to engage in any activity for which they would be required to hold a hunting licence.

The investigating officer found that the three men defied their court orders by purchasing moose licences and applying in the adult moose validation tag draw system in 2010. Varty also purchased a deer licence and entered the antlerless deer draw in 2010 while still under the licence prohibition.

Justice of the Peace, Sam Cureatz heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice, Bancroft, on November 18, 2010.

To report a natural resources violation, call 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) toll-free any time or contact your local ministry office during regular business hours. You can also call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). □

Groups had big plans for theatre

(from page 1)

"I was exceedingly excited when it opened and I can remember standing there talking with Andy Campbell and Bill Obee and a bunch of other people about what a great opportunity it was," Fay said. He pointed out that it is a great location and fit well with other cultural facilities in Minden and said he was really disappointed when it had to close.

While the Folk Society and the Conjurers had planned to use the Beaver Theatre facilities, groups such as Those Other Movies, Highland Media Arts and the Haliburton International Film Festival were prepared to take full advantage of what the theatre had to offer. During the brief time the theatre was open one movie premiered.

"We were only able to have one of our international film festivals there, which was last year," said Tammy Rea, Chair of Highlands Media Arts and a member of the other two organizations. "That's just devastatingly sad for us because everyone who comes up from the Toronto International Film Festival -- directors and people from their office -- they were just so happy to see it in the retro theatre," Rea said. "So, last year when we had our film festival on the Saturday night, when we showed our premier movie we had the director there with us; we had a liquor license; we had a question and answer period and we had drinks and appetizers while the jazz band was playing on the stage. It was just amazing. It was an ideal spot. It had such a great feel."

The atmosphere was perfect for a film festival. "People like our movies, but some people feel that if they can't have popcorn, it's not a movie," Rea said. "So, we've lost some of our audience. There is something about being in an old movie theatre that is just magical."

The Molou Theatre in Haliburton, which is no longer available, served as a venue where they also held their own film competitions and they planned to do the same in Minden at the Beaver Theatre. "It would have been a lot easier to have Sheridan or Ryerson's film school come and work with us on that because a totally teched-out old theatre is something that just doesn't exist," she said it would have made it worthwhile for the students and staff of those schools to come to Minden just to see the facility and be a part of it.

"It's very sad. I don't drive by it every day and not think about it. It's devastating," she said. "We think about it every month when we have our movies. We love our audience and we try to make it the greatest movie experience as possible, but it will never be like it is in a movie theatre."

Rea said the potential to boost the economy of Minden with the theatre providing the types of entertainment it was capable of hosting will be missed. "It was so great for Minden," she said, comparing it to the Northern Lights Pavilion in Haliburton which brings people into the village, benefitting the restaurants and other businesses. "Minden just needed that one little piece to make it work," she said.

The building's owner is currently embroiled in a legal battle (law suits and counter suits) with contractors and the municipality and there appears to be little hope of the theatre reopening any time soon. □

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POLICE REPORTS
Suspicious behaviour reported in Bobcaygeon

(CITY OF KAWARTHA LAKES, ONT.) – Police are reminding parents of the importance of street proofing their children after the driver of a pickup truck acted suspiciously towards a nine year old boy Wednesday December 8, 2010. The incident occurred in the area of Joseph Street and Prince Street in Bobcaygeon around 3:50 p.m. The driver of the truck pulled up beside the nine year old and asked him if he wanted to see his new puppy. The boy refused and the driver left the area south on Joseph Street, turning right on Main Street. The boy contacted his mother and the police were called right away.

The vehicle is described as an older model silver/grey pickup truck with rust spots. It is possibly a Ford with a black soft cover over the box of the truck. There was a ladder sticking out the back of the vehicle. The truck is described as a regular cab with black leather/vinyl seats that were bucket style. The boy observed cigarettes on the dash of the truck. The side windows were tinted but not the back window.

The lone occupant of the truck is described as male, white, approximately 30 years old, with medium length dark hair. He is also described as having a couple of day's growth of beard. The male was wearing a black Toronto Maple Leaf baseball hat, a black short sleeve t-shirt, black leather gloves and he had a chain tattoo around his neck. The boy did not see a puppy in the truck.

Police are asking anyone with information about the incident or if they know the identity of the driver or vehicle to contact City of Kawartha Lakes OPP at (705) 324-6741. □

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TLDSB director of education Larry Hope congratulates Gary Brohman following the swearing in of new trustees on Dec. 7.

Brohman sworn in as trustee

By Mark Arike

Former Hal High principal Gary Brohman is officially in.

On Dec. 7 in the Trillium Lakelands District School Board's (TLDSB) Lindsay office, Brohman, along with three other new trustees, were sworn in to the board.

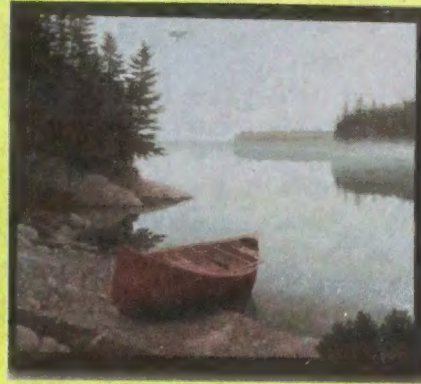
"Any change in the board of trustees brings

a new energy and point of view to the Board," said TLDSB director of education Larry Hope in a press release. "I'm very excited about the way this board of trustees will evolve."

Brohman is one of 10 trustees on the board and is the only Haliburton County representative. □

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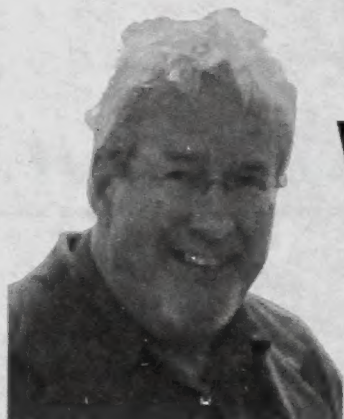


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Editorial VIEWPOINT

By Stephen Patrick



Wicked Wicked Wikileaks and Twitterati for ever

The attack on the World Trade Centre in New York on September 11th, 2001 must surely be seen, for ever, as the defining event of the first decade of this 21st century: it has shaped political events, political discourse, and world conflict on a scale that can easily be compared to the December 7th, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbour, or the September 1939 Nazi march into Poland. Virtually every day our newspapers and television screens are filled with coverage of events or analysis of shifting political change that are directly related to 9/11. On Monday of this week, for example, terrorist bombs in Sweden, Karzai's outburst "I choose the Taliban".

The clear conflict between fundamentalism (the Islamic variety) and so-called Western values is murky and messy territory, pulling in Christian fundamentalists, ideologues of the right and the left, religious bigots and unabashed racists of all hues. Surely it will be decades more before the forces unleashed by those four jetliners will be quelled or seen as history. A quick fix? Think of Northern Ireland, and weep.

So what's in our crystal ball for the next decade? Is any epochal event likely to have anything near the trans-world ripple effect of 9/11?

Well, just maybe Julian Assange and his band of Wiki leakers provide a convenient place to start. Not that any of the leaks are world-shattering. But in the larger picture Assange and his cries for unfettered access to "official" state documents, supported across the world by literally millions of followers, must surely be related to that other daily revolution, i.e. the transformational effect of the social networks like Facebook and Twitter.

Social interaction, daily journalism, the dissemination of the most mundane, and the most important information is increasingly the domain of social networks, operating seamlessly on smart phones in the great urban centres and around the world. Privacy, personal, or "official" rapidly gives way to the need for access, the need to know. Our children practise hacking each others' Facebook addresses. Grownup journalists jostle for Twitter contacts and followers. My colleagues here at the Voice, notably Terrance Gavin and Mark Arike, both confirmed and convinced Twitterati and Facebook fans, push this writer regularly to sign up: Facebook I deal with. Twitter will come soon, for me, and of course the Voice.

It's also fascinating to see how rapidly governments are pushing, or coercing corporations like the big international banks and sites like Amazon.com to try to dry up funds for Assange and his banditos. But surely Facebook and Twitter will respect their millions of users who think Wikileaks are a right -- just another accessible 'Wall' on the road to total information. And what a clash of titans might be shaping up between those sets of corporate giants.

This "all information all the time" has pushed the new Internet world into more and more complex arguments over privacy and rights, with positions that can be cogently held by traditional liberals, paternalistic governments of the right and the left, as well as by those who remember the sober admonishments of Orwell. Who do you trust? The U.S. State Department, the CIA, Stephen Harper, or Mr. Assange and his bands of millions probing into every corner, personal and official, in our complex 21st century lives? □

Letter of the Week

It's Time to get Religion Out of Local Politics

Dear Editor:

I'm currently studying abroad, but I keep up to date with Haliburton Highlands events by reviewing the local newspapers online each week. I recently read the articles about the induction ceremonies for the new township councils, and was surprised to discover that church officials still swear in our municipal politicians. Not only did the ceremonies contain quotes from the bible, but one pastor also declared that the local government's authority was 'god ordained.'

Political power does not come from supernatural forces and mythical beings. It is the mandate of the masses. People realized long ago that religion and politics should be separate. Mixing the two led to a period of widespread oppression, persecution, and ignorance that has come to be known as the 'Dark Ages.'

Having Christian officials swearing in council members is also an act of exclusion. It neglects atheism, Hinduism, Sikhism, Islam, Baha'ism, Judaism, and all the other belief sets that exist within the Highlands.

It's time for Canadian municipal politics to come to its senses, join the 21st century, and entirely separate religion from politics.

Tyson Farrell

Gelert / Cambridge, England

Dear Editor:

Three questions for Haliburton and Minden Councillors

Dear Editor:

We'd like to present these three questions to our new councils in Minden Hills and Dysart et al:

- 1: Do you have plans to put in place money towards the welfare of animals in these communities?
- 2: Is so, will it be sufficient to comfortably house and care for abandoned and abused animals?
- 3: Will you hire a caregiver to take the load of the SPCA in Bracebridge and HART in Bancroft? The responsibility belongs to us!

There is far too much animal abuse everywhere -- our area being no exception. You just have to look at the dogs living their lives on chains and the feral cats in both communities (your choice of "solving" this problem was beyond belief in a supposedly civilized society!)

We are told, so often, that the people committing this cruelty are not capable of understanding their actions. In some cases this is true, but definitely not all cases. As with most societal changes we need our children to help us -- they are the makers of change. A child will always choose kindness over cruelty, but when the adults around them do the opposite they learn to accept it. "Using" animals is the best way to counteract bullying and aggressiveness while learning understanding and compassion. It is always a win-win situation. Animals do not judge.

Many people are willing to help -- veterinarians included.

Please send your response to the newspaper.

The Phipps Family

Haliburton □

"The emphasis was on fun."

Dear Editor,

Firstly, I would like to congratulate the County Voice on its coverage of the local sports scene in Haliburton County. Terry Gavin covers a lot of ground!

I would like to make a correction to last week's coverage of the Bonnie & Clyde Spiel held at the Haliburton Curling Club. While our team, consisting of Andrea & Steve Roberts and Sheila Stackhouse (who was not mentioned and who was an integral part of the success that we had!) did finish first -- it was in our division only.

The team with the most number of points, from all three divisions, was the team made up of Case & Brigitte Bassie (skip and vice) and Joanne & Larry Briden (lead and second). They had an excellent day and handily won all three of their games.

It was an excellently run bonspiel, with the emphasis on "fun". The organizing committee of Lois & Mo Welch and Bob & Ann MacNaull are to be congratulated for all their hard work and also for raising more than \$500.00 through a "looney" auction, for the Curling Club. Again, many thanks for your local coverage.

Yours truly,

Larry Holden

Haliburton □

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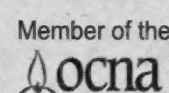
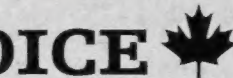
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Dear Editor:

"Dear Barry ..."

Dear Editor:

An open letter to Barry Devolin M.P.

Please explain what the Canadian government is doing to immediately action climate change.

I am dismayed to learn that again Canada has been declared "Fossil of the Year" by the world's leading environmental groups. Why did the Conservative-dominated Senate add insult to injury by rejecting the climate change bill that was approved by the majority of democratically elected M.P.'s without fulfilling their mandate to be the "chamber of sober second thought"? Never before in the history of Canada has a bill been rejected by the Senate without due consideration and debate. It is a travesty to our democracy and parliamentary process!

Why is there no plan to put in place policies that will ensure consumers and businesses are financially motivated to conserve? Why is the federal government paying huge subsidies to our oil and gas industries that only serve to accelerate depletion of finite resources, and compounds climate change problems?

Studies done for the British government show action on climate change has far more economic benefit than the consequences of inaction. Canada should be a world leader, not hiding behind other nations. How can you sleep at night knowing your votes in Parliament are helping to rob our children and grandchildren of a future?

R.B. MacMorran, President, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock Federal Liberal Association □

"I was not expecting so much exposure in the paper."

Dear Editor:

I happened to come across a copy the latest County Voice. I read Laura Redman's article on the Dysart inauguration which took place last Monday. Thank you for writing what I had shared with council that day.

I was not expecting so much exposure in the paper! It is much appreciated, as it does bring exposure to NFC, it being new. It was a good article you have written, as you covered a lot of what was expressed that day. It was good to meet you. Since moving back to this area, I want to become acquainted with the many good people who live in Haliburton now. Keep up the good work!

Pastor Bev Hicks
Northland Faith Church.

Back Words Short Story Contest Winners

Writers of all ages amazed the judges with their creative uses of the five words in this year's Back Words short story contest which concluded Saturday at R.D. Lawrence Place with a celebration of six winners, and one honorary mention. "We had a lot of new writers join the fold this year, who not only had the courage to enter their stories, exposing a layer of their inner selves, but also several who read today for the first time in public," says Sheryl Loucks, R.D.L.P. coordinator.

This year's judges were Writer In-Residence and County Voice staff Laura Redman, and former WIRs Michael Fay and Pauline Johnson, all respected published writers and editors. They chose the following winners:

Children's category; 1st Place went to Sadie Rose Lissemore for her story Sadie, a mini-epic historical fictional account of a girl's pioneer life here in the county. Second place went to Bridie Andrus for her fun skip through a fantasy tale called Time Machine. In 3rd Place was Victoria Edwards for her hugely imaginative mythic tale called Three Magic Pearls.

County Voice Editor Stephen Patrick and Publisher Jack Brezina both said they were delighted to facilitate this event in 2010, and they look forward to continuing the contest in years to come.

In the adults category; first place went to Claire Sylvan for an emotional home run of a story called "The Worst Part". Second went to Nick Adams for the heart wrenching tale of reconciliation in "Brothers", and third place went to Angie Horner for her lyrical imaginative definition of the word library in an unforgettable charming story called "Pebbles and Sun". An honourable mention was given to Robert Smith for the unique perspective in his clever story "Focus on the Umbrella".

"I want to extend a special thank-you to the County Voice for sponsoring the contest and publishing the winning stories over the next few weeks. We are also exceedingly grateful for the generosity of our prize sponsors, the Dominion Hotel and Masters Bookstore," says Loucks. "The entries proved there is a large and deep pool of writing talent in this county – keep writing!" □



Above: One of the pieces in the Thomas Hepburn Robertson exhibit depicts the Gull Lake. The show runs until Saturday at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery.

Right: Several other landscape works of art by other artists are also on display at the gallery.



Gallery possesses oldest known renderings of Minden

Landscape show comes to a close during special Dec. 18 ceremony

By Mark Arike

It's taken Laurie Carmount over two years to bring the latest exhibit to the Agnes Jamieson Gallery in Minden, but that's nothing compared to how many years the historic pieces in the show have on them.

"It's a real treat," said Carmount, curator of the gallery, about the Thomas Hepburn Robertson exhibit – Illustrations of Minden's Gull Lake and River – that went on display on Nov. 25.

The collection – on loan from the Toronto Library Archives – features sketches dating back to 1860, most of which depict the Gull Lake and River, Minden and its surrounding areas. Presently, they are the oldest known renderings in circulation.

Little is known about the artist behind the work, explained Carmount, other than that he was born in Edinburgh, Scotland and was a school teacher in Coburg, who eventually moved to Peterborough and then to Fenelon Falls – the village where he spent his final days, before dying at the age of 40 in 1864.

Carmount described the sketches as being drawn in a Victorian-style that's "kind of odd" when compared to the landscape art of more recent years.

"The perspective is really weird but they're all really detailed," she said, pointing out an illustration of Gull Lake at Miners Bay.

In the time period that the art was created, the county was far less developed, there were fewer inhabitants, and the geography was difficult to navigate. Minden was also going through some changes.

"The Bobcaygeon Rd. had only reached Gull River in 1859, being nothing more than a mean trail through the woods," states a summary of the show. "The town had just changed its name from Gull River to Minden. One would have found a cabin, a general store and tavern. If you wanted to cross the river you used a pulley and raft. Minden was rough and tumble, so much so that people to the south called Bobcaygeon Rd. the 'North Pole Rd'."

According to the inscription and from information in the Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Victoria (1881), Robertson was commissioned to do the pieces for Mrs. John Cameron as a memorial to her husband – the late John Cameron, former MP for Victoria County Canada West, and major landholder in the area of Cameron Lake.

Former Trent University professor John Wadland was first to discover the lithograph and ink sketches in the collection.

For Carmount, it was a lengthy and time-consuming process to bring the pieces to the gallery.

"We had to schedule it, agree on when [the dates] we can have it, prove that we can take care of it ..." she said, explaining the requirements of meeting public art gallery standards. "Humidity, light, heat, air quality – it all has to be monitored."

The expectations are all understandable, added Carmount. None of the demands are things that she wouldn't expect herself when receiving a request.

"No matter what public art gallery it is, you're going to go through that ... if I were approached for something out of our collection, I would scrutinize them just as much."

Looking for works that highlight the Highlands is something that Carmount and a few other community members have been doing for a while, she explained.

"We're constantly researching to find out about the people of significance who have specifically come to this area to capture it in an artistic way."

Canadian landscape is a current focus for the gallery. Running alongside the Robertson exhibit is a smaller show (in terms of wall space used) that highlights what the Highlands looked like between the 1920s and 1950s.

"There was absolutely nothing, except for a little snow trail going along Head Lake," said Carmount of a painting depicting the village of Haliburton during the winter.

The private collection features the works of painters Herbert Sidney Palmer, Tom Stone and W.C. Cranley.

Since Carmount is always on the hunt for art that provides a snapshot of how the Highlands used to look, she encourages the public to come forward with any tips that might lead her to more discoveries.

"I'm always wanting to know any information about a recognized Canadian artist who was in this area, or someone who has artwork that they would be willing to loan," she said. "It's an opportunity to share what you have for a short time."

A closing ceremony for Robertson's show, as well as the gallery's members' show, will take place at the gallery on Dec. 18. After that the gallery will be closed for two weeks for holidays and will reopen on Jan. 5.

For more information about the show or to inquire about collections, call the gallery at 705-286-3763 or email gallery@mindenhill.ca. □

Minden Hills tables fiscal restraint

By Laura Redman

The new Minden Hills Council clearly indicated a focus on fiscal responsibility at their Dec. 9 meeting, asking their fire chief to research Toronto-area auctions for a replacement pumper truck, shelving a possible solar energy project, and challenging the fundraising capacity of municipal events.

Although council agreed to proceed with the tendering process for the new pumper truck, Reeve Barb Reid said that process will deliver the current dollar figure on the specialty truck, not a commitment to purchase.

Reid then asked Minden Hills Fire Chief Doug Schell to search auctions in the cities of Mississauga and Toronto to see if he could come up with an alternative to the custom-order pumper.

Schell pointed out that the truck the former council agreed to purchase has specific features that will assist in cottage country firefighting, but Reid insisted that "due diligence" was required. Schell then pointed out that he would need to bring a mechanic with him to the auctions.

Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch noted that reserve funds were already in place for part of the cost of the truck and that by the time of its delivery in 2012, the cost would be fully covered, since the previous council had approved the expenditure and funds have been set aside.

Councillor Lisa Schell then asked if trucks sold at auction would have any warranty attached to them, but Chief Schell said he's been looking at auction sites and there are currently no pumpers available, adding that from what he's seen, used equipment is bought in 'as is' condition.

But Reid repeated the need for due diligence and insisted that the fire chief at least investigate the possibility of a used truck to replace the 12-year-old pumper the department currently uses.

Rick Cox, director of community services, has been investigating the possibility of a solar energy project through a U-Links study, and through two companies, to place solar panels on the roof surfaces of the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena and the Minden Curling Club. The proposal from Seedorf Power Corporation would have allowed the use of the two roof surfaces for the company's installation of solar panels with Minden Hills remaining as landlord of the project, while the other proposal from Blue Power Energy Corporation wanted the municipality to purchase and own the solar panels outright - both companies made a short presentation to council on Thursday.

But the solar energy project proposal also received a chilly reception from the new council. When the time came for a vote, Reid pointed out that next year's provincial election could bring sweeping changes to this rush of solar energy projects, and council voted unanimously to shelve the current discussion.

Cox then asked if the parks and recreation committee being established with Councillor Jean Neville as chair, would negate the public advisory board he's been working to put together within a two-year planning process in the recreation department.

After a brief discussion about whether council was talking about one committee or two, and whether a municipal councillor can chair a public advisory committee, Reid asked Cox to sit down with Neville and Councillor Brigitte Gall - who is to chair a community engagement committee - and work out the details of what shape those committees will take.

Reid also told Cox that he, Neville and Gall need to discuss established and proposed community events within the municipal-



Kate Hall and Jim Blake present Reeve Barb Reid with the rural 'walkability' award at the Dec. 9 Minden Hills council meeting

ity, and she raised the question of purpose within those events.

"If your event is only bringing in \$1,400, then we need to look at why we're doing that event," Reid said.

Threebrooks receives condominium development status

After a lengthy discussion and a single vote of protest, Minden Hills council agreed to amend the official plan and zoning to grant Threebrooks - a 12-unit cottage development on South Lake - condominium development status.

Back in 2008, Threebrooks, a development of Ballantry Homes, was initially granted residential commercial exception zoning to allow the fractional or interval ownership cottages to be built on the lands that used to be home to the Silver Birch Resort and Trailer Park.

Minden Hills council members heard from Heather Sadler of Ecovue, planning consultant for Ballantry on Thursday about the rationale behind the request for a standard condominium status that will allow for one sewage disposal and one water system within the common lands of the development - meaning more regulations, and ultimately offering the municipality more control with the proposed communal system.

Reeve Barb Reid said the change is a good one.

"This means there will only be one family to one unit, providing more ownership and less comings and goings to the properties," Reid said, adding that the condominium status is a tool that offers the municipality more control over water and sewage.

But council also heard two letters of concern about the changes, and from one South Lake resident who was present at the meeting to ask about public access to the boat launch on the property. The letters outlined concerns with further development of the property, stated that some of the cottages were already occupied, and that there was a precedent set by this "Mississauga-style subdivi-

sion" on the lake. Both letters requested that the remaining 240-foot lands be left as a "buffer zone" to the other cottages in the area and as a natural habitat.

Reid responded by saying there will only be 12 units on the property - however the rezoning initial application in 2008 did request 15. And even though Reid stated that this was already a commercial property that was simply redeveloped, Councillor Larry Clarke voted against the decision Thursday to amend the bylaw and zoning, stating that he still had concerns about the small lot sizes on South Lake, which he called an especially sensitive body of water.

Sadler also spoke to concerns expressed about 'seasonal' versus permanent residency, saying that the municipality cannot and should not try to control the definition of seasonal. Sadler also stated that individual units can be a condominium and that condominium zoning is not really a style of land use, but a style of ownership.

"The official plan is silent on condominium uses... and that is - something council might want to address in the future," Sadler said.

On the Ballantry website, it states that only three of the cottages in the South Lake development are still available for sale.

Walkability Award

'Walkability' award presented to Minden Hills
Kate Hall and Jim Blake were at council Thursday on behalf of the Communities in Action Committee to present Minden Hills with the first Walkability Award of Excellence in Ontario. The award for a rural community, shared between Minden and Haliburton, recognizes the scope of work the municipality has completed in Minden Hills - from the new sidewalks and the Riverwalk, to the readily available walking and biking maps. □

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is a lead set works
set for Christmas
and on man's move
for Christmas. Love Jessa

Dear Santa
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been on a diet? Santa
this is what I want for
Christmas. A set of
Chiptic Cards and a
Scanner. Santa I have
been a good boy because
I have been helping
my mom and dad. Santa
what do you want to
drink? I got Milk, beer,
beer, water, pop. Do you
want me to make food
for Rudolph? Santa
you are the best because
you are very nice
nice to me. My
friend Aaron he
wants a DSi.

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Dear Santa,
Rainbow ponies.
I want a Han-
nah Montana mi-
crophone. I also
want a guitar
and a new Han-
nah Montana t-
shirt. Could you
bring Grandma
something to
scrub her feet.
Grandpa wants
a boat. Mommy
would like a new
picture frame.
Tess

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Pebbles and Sun

By Angie Horner

**3rd Place Winner
Adult Category**

Angie Horner's family roots are planted in Goodwood, Markham and west-end Toronto, where she took great comfort in being an explorer of valleys, streams and areas of "quick-sand". She moved to Minden in 2002, and continues to do the same with her family here. Her story was inspired by her affection for the sandy areas around Gelert; the homesteads still standing there, the Drag River, her kids, and the love of mixing facts and fancifulness.

Pebbles and Sun
By Angie Horner

Amy Gelert is a curious girl. Today she is dabbling with pebbles in a quiet pool of water at the river's edge. The spot is just a wee step from her family's farm which she can see up the hill.

Amy likes the shade of the trees here; the smell of the dirt; and the many-coloured pebbles shimmering in the water. Her feet are bare, and her toes make prints in the cool mud. It is slippery which makes her giggle. Her dog Gerolomy is by her side. Together they lift rocks to see what creatures might be underneath. Gerolomy finds a crayfish: "snap, snap, move ahead!" Amy finds a water-worm: "wiggle-jiggle, Hello!" They tap their hands on the fresh water to see it sparkle and splash. Picking up pebbles they sort them - round and blue ones here, round and red ones here and yellow tiny ones there... Their work is interrupted by voices from behind the cattails ahead. Amy and Gerolomy take cover behind the dogwoods. "I am certain it is this way. Or perhaps that way," says a confident voice.

"Mmmmp," grumps a second voice.

The tip of a red canoe glides into sight. A woman in a pale frock with frills and a fabulous white sun-umbrella with flouncy rose trim sits in the bow of the canoe. She sits very straight and leans forward to see ahead. "We must find the library," she clearly states. Her paddling companion has skin that is brown and shiny from the sun.

They float close to Amy and Gerolomy's play spot. Suddenly the canoe turns, caught in a swirl of water. Around and around. Amy watches. The lady with the pink-trimmed umbrella is certainly not happy. The man with the sun-darkened skin does not seem to mind. Faster and faster they spin, faster and faster, and then as though by some magic they STOP and the canoe lands right on the silky shoreline where Amy and Gerolomy play.

Amy and Gerolomy observe through the red boughs of the dogwood bush. The sun-skinned man tries to launch the canoe back into the water. Despite his strength, he cannot. "The Library, The Library, I must get to The Library!!" cries the woman in pale pink trim. She sets herself on a round stone and wails a very loud weeping cry.

What is all the fuss about???... Amy's curiosity must know. She gingerly steps out, and asks, "What is the library?" The strangers jump! Both surprised to learn she was there.

"What is the library?" Amy asks again.

The sun-skin man answers, "A library is a place that stores things for all people to use....It often keeps books, but it doesn't have to be books."

"Oh," says Amy, still watching the woman who is weeping like a willow in a dress.

Amy tugs on a stem of a flowering bush nearby, and offers, "I have a library I can show you."

The woman opens her eyes. Amy shows her the empty shape of a little insect sitting on the

stem. "This was a water bug once, but it came out and changed into a dragonfly" says Amy. The woman sits up to see.

"And this is a spot where an insect is eating the inside of the leaves" says Amy pointing to the lines that dance a dizzy pattern across the leaf. Holding the leaf in her hand, the woman smiles and imagines beetles dancing a whirling waltz.

"And here is my collection" says Amy proudly pointing to her pebbles. Gerolomy barks. (He is proud of the collection too.) Amy and the woman with pink play with the pebbles for hours - making patterns of shapes and colours, and then hop-scotching them on the sand. The man with sun-kissed skin rests his tired head and body on the rocks nearby. Gerolomy smells his boots and then retires beside him.

The day passes and the sun dims. Amy must go home. Together, she and the woman return their collections to the sand and water. The canoe un-wedges from the mucky shore with



Angie Horner

surprising ease.

"Good-bye my friends," says the lady in pink, smiling from the bow. "Good-bye my friends," says the man of sun, feeling strong.

"Thank you for your library," the woman calls across the water's surface.

"It is your library too!" shouts Amy.

With toes in the sand and pebbles on their feet, Amy and Gerolomy watch their friends float away.

"Goodbye!" she waves. "Goodbye," he wags. Then together they turn for home.

Judge's Comments: *Pebbles and Sun - The style of this story was outstanding, fitting nicely with the convincing, yet magical, setting. The sudden meeting of two different worlds was both believable and intriguing. The lyrical definition of 'library' was just fascinating, and it really drove into the adult characters with the rush of magic.*

Focus on the Umbrella

By Robert Smith

**Honourable Mention
Adult Category**

Robert K. Smith, known as Bob, is a high school teacher for adult learners, who's self-published three novels now. He lives in Ingoldsby. And he has just launched a CD of Christmas stories on Canoe FM.

Focus On The Umbrella
By Robert Smith

I was helping Mom look for her umbrella when Dad got home from the library with another book for me. It was called "Ghost Towns Of Ontario", which at first I thought was pretty neat since I'm into vampires and things like that. Except when I read the back cover, I found out a ghost town is somewhere people used to live but now it's empty. Only Gelert is in the book, and it's not deserted. We live there. And it's not like we're the only ones. But it's not the other kind of ghost town either. There's a few old houses, but they're just falling-down buildings. No one says they have ghosts.

Dad keeps bringing books home for me. He says reading will help me learn to focus. I have Attention Deficit Disorder. I'm in Grade Seven but ever since I was in Grade Four, three times a week I go to Mrs. Hansman. She makes me do stuff to slow down my head. I mostly do fine in regular class now, but she says my brain's in overdrive. It jumps from thing to thing. Not wandering like in daydreaming either, hectic.

I try not to laugh when Dad says focus. It makes me think of Madame Dupont. She's an exchange teacher from Paris, here for one year and we get her for French and History. She knows all the English words but I don't think she got to speak it much 'cause she says a lot of them wrong. Like once she was talking about a compromise and she called it a com promise.

Or she doesn't get the letter 'h' right. Sometimes she leaves it off and sometimes she adds an extra one. Today in History she was telling us about somebody named Annabelle who took helephants through the helps. I can't figure out what that means. The lesson was about some war in ancient Italy, not a zoo that uses computers, and I don't see how an elephant could use a help menu anyway. Must mean something else.

The reason I want to laugh when Dad says focus is that's another word she says wrong. Always to me too. She pronounces the first part like a word I'm not allowed to say or I would get my mouth washed out. Tommy Barton says I looked like a frog the first time she said to focus.

I think the best thing that helps me practice is Dad's old racing canoe. It goes fast, but it's real tippy so you have to concentrate. If you don't, you turn over. It's one thing on a hot day when you're playing in the lake with your friends and you flip the canoe on purpose. But it's something else if you're being a tourist.

The best thing about writing is you can look back to see what you started to talk about. You can't do that when you speak, so I can tell somebody about playing Spin The Bottle at Jenny Hardesty's party and somehow I switch to my favourite gum and eventually get to last night's hockey game. By that time I forget

where I began. At least when it's in writing, I can look back. Like this. Here I am talking about canoes and Madame Dupont, and I started writing about helping Mom look for her umbrella. Mrs. Hansman says I need to keep things in one place or I lose them.

So when I decided not to read the library book right away because I was helping Mom, I took it to my room. Only on top of the pile on my desk was a comic about werewolves Tommy Barton leant me, and even though I already read it once, I decided to look at it again. But I was hungry, so first I went to the kitchen and looked in the fridge. I found some pizza from dinner last night. We had to eat early to take my little sister to her dancing lesson. She's too small to go by herself so we walked her all the way in. When I remembered that, I pictured my mother putting her umbrella down while she helped my sister take her coat off.

So I went into the hall where Mom was muttering while she went through the closet, and told her the umbrella was on a chair in the waiting

room outside the ballet studio. Sometimes it helps to have a brain that's always on the go.

Judge's comments: *Focus on the Umbrella: This story has a unique point of view which is enhanced by its stream of consciousness style. It is skillfully developed and, despite the protagonist's jumpy attention span, surprisingly comes full circle to a logical ending. This shows the skill of the writer. The use of humour rounds out the personality of the protagonist, so that we can empathize with him about his disability but admire his coping skills and spunk. The story leaves us with an understanding of a different perspective and a lifestyle challenge.*



Robert Smith

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa Clause
How are you? Are you sick? Do
you like coke-a-cola?
Have you got an fat?
Have you been nice to
Mrs. Clause? Do you like carrots?
Why do you love cookies?
There's a picture on the back
of the page of Rudolph. I have
been good because I helped
Jewell a.k.a my sister make
her bed.



Wishing You a Happy Holiday

As another holiday season gets into full swing, we'd like to share our best wishes and deliver our gratitude to all of those who have visited us this year.



From the Staff at

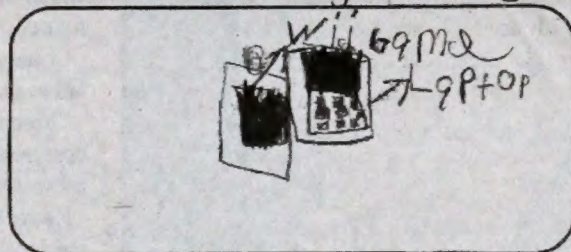


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good girl this
month. I love you
and have the elf's
been good? can
you give every
one in the North Pole
a hug for me please
and thank you
my best friend have
been really good this
year. She's been
helping people out.
Could you get her
a pig? what is a
fur real friend and
my friend's name is brith
This year I am going
to be all of your kind
Reindeer food and you and
Mrs. Clause a present

Dear Santa
Hello Santa!
How is Rudolph?
Here is my Christmas
list
• Black 95 Laptop
• 9.1 bag
• Wii game
• We'll you can
play the guitar



From, Zgc

Dear Santa,
I was a very good boy today
at daycare.

Please can I talk to Santa. I want
to tell him I have been good I
would like presents, I don't know
what.

Valerie let me have treats
Dominic

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Dysart waits for insurance report on damaged plow truck

By Laura Redman

Dysart Council is waiting to hear the outcome of an insurance adjuster's report on a snowplow truck.

The plow truck went off the road while on active duty in the Bitter Lake area in Ward Four during a recent snowstorm.

"We're waiting for a report from the insurance company," Reeve Murray Fearrey said. "Hopefully if the frame is bent, it can be straightened and it can be returned quickly."

One plow down, Haliburton faced another winter blast on Sunday, and snow flurries continue to fall.

"The [problem] is the time that has elapsed between when the insurance adjuster looks at it and makes the decision, and of course it's winter and we need the truck now," Fearrey said. "So that's the difficulty."

But the township does have a spare snowplow truck on hand. "As long as everything else keeps working, there shouldn't be an interruption in service," Fearrey said.

During the Dec. 13 meeting, Dysart council also approved the renewal of their 2001 municipal insurance with Jardine Lloyd Thompson Canada Inc. with a three per cent increase, bringing their insurance costs for the year to \$245,619 plus HST.

As the motion was passed, Fearrey commented that this was

probably not the best time to consider changing insurance providers, since Dysart has had good service with Jardine - and since there is a large claim in the wings, as they await the fate of the damaged plow truck.

Project will map county's cultural assets

Dysart council heard a presentation at the Dec. 13 council meeting about the concept of cultural mapping - and the project currently underway in the township of Minden Hills and Haliburton County.

Daniela Pagliaro, director of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Kim McBrien, director of the Haliburton Arts Council, shared the delivery of the presentation, which was based on a Powerpoint prepared by AuthenticCity, a municipal consulting agency based in Toronto that helps to build local economies through culture-based economic development.

Titled 'Cultural Mapping and Municipal Cultural Planning', the presentation defined cultural mapping as "A systematic approach to identifying, recording and analyzing a community's cultural assets" with a broad definition of 'culture', based on two concepts - concrete cultural places, centres, people and resources and also identity mapping through 'stories'.

(more on page 13)



Highlands East council, left to right: Suzanne Partridge, reeve Dave Burton, Joan Barton; back: Steven Kauffeldt and Cecil Ryall.

Highlands East council sworn in

New councilors congratulated and informed of challenges ahead

By Mark Arike

Highlands East's new council is officially sworn in and getting down to business.

Steven Kauffeldt (Ward 1), Suzanne Partridge (Ward 2), Cecil Ryall (Ward 3), Joan Barton (Ward 4) and returning reeve-elect Dave Burton took their oath of office in front of a large crowd at the Lloyd Watson Centre in Wilberforce on Tuesday.

CAO Sharon Stoughton-Craig called the inaugural ceremony to order after Royal Canadian Legion members and the new members of council were led to the front of the room by piper Mike Lockwood.

Clerk Irene Cook presented councilors with the declaration of office, after which time reverend Ted Norris provided council with his blessings for the future.

County of Haliburton CAO Jim Wilson was in attendance to extend congratulations to council on behalf of County council.

"Your interest and dedication to public office will certainly contribute to success over the next four years," said Wilson, adding that the next four years will present many challenges.

Reeve Burton began his closing remarks with some light-hearted talk, garnering laughs from the audience and councilors. He went on to say that he was honoured and humbled by the trust that has been bestowed upon him by the voting people of the municipality.

"I will serve the municipality with dignity and respect," said Burton, informing the new council that it's not an easy task to be a municipal councilor in today's day and age.

"It seems that we are trying to do more and more with less and less. We are under the most scrutiny because we are at the grassroots level," he explained.

Burton said that the business of the municipality would be governed by "transparency, openness and accountability" at all times.

Burton also painted the current picture in Highlands East, stating that finances are in good standing, and that the municipality is a forerunner in a number of areas.

"We are fiscally strong, we have about 40 years of life in the landfills, the fire department has well-trained personal and functional equipment, our roads department in the best in the county, and our administration is recognized and is the envy of all."

Burton also gave kudos to all staff of the municipality and all of the volunteers who have "built their communities."

An impromptu performance was also put on at the ceremony, featuring grade 7 and 8 Wilberforce students who sang Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer.

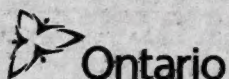
A lunch was provided prior to council's first regular meeting. □



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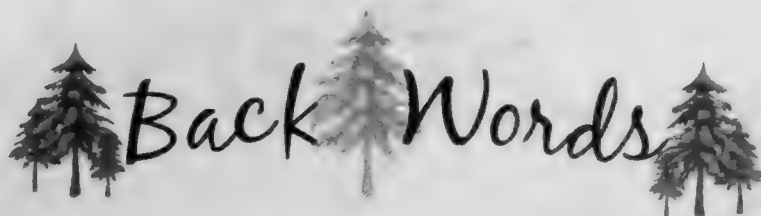
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*Seasons
Greetings
from the
County
Voice*





Three Magic Pearls

By Victoria Edwards

**Third Place Winner
Childrens Category**

Victoria Edwards – Three Magic Pearls “Hello my name is Victoria Edwards and I’m 11 yrs. old. I was born in Vancouver, but lived in Whitehorse, Yukon. After nine years of living in Whitehorse, I began my adventure going to Nova Scotia for one year. Then I continued my adventure in Ontario, where I have been living for a year and a bit. I’ve been out of Canada to Skagway, Alaska, which is in the U.S.A. because my mom lives there. I love to sing, write and someday I would like to be a kid’s doctor. The school I go to is called J.D.H. that stands for J. Douglas Hodgson elementary school. I have one brother named Ryan and he’s 12 years old. I go on a school bus every morning with my brother and my cousin Douglas Wood, he is also 12 years old! My cousin Sydney Cameron has a pug and I log pugs.” Submitted by Victoria Edwards

Three Magic Pearls
By Victoria Edwards

Hello my name is Aurelia Green Tree. I’m 10 and I am best friends with Bear, a dancing bear with an umbrella. I love him because he talks to me. We somehow know how to talk to each other, its fun.

I’m native and I live in a village called Prairies View and I live by the ocean. In every village there’s some type of wizard. Ours is the wind wizard. Our wizard said to me and my friend Bear to find the three magic pearls from the three local villages called Jurana, Gelert and Goodieanna. We have to go to Jurana first because the first pearl is there and that pearl can only make food. The second pearl can make food and other items, and the third pearl can make food, other items and it can take you anywhere in the world, but only if it was important, like if didn’t want to paddle you still couldn’t use the pearl, only for emergencies.

My friend, Bear and I have to leave on Monday to start paddling our canoe to Jurana, the first village, and we need all three pearls for our wizard so he can make our village much bigger, and more people can live there, and the wizard can give everyone free food that will last them for years.

Now it’s Monday and my friend Bear and I are leaving in 13 minutes. We are packing lots of food and clothes just in case an accident happens. Bear, the dancing bear with the umbrella, is packing lots of rope and paddles in case a paddle breaks and the rope is in case anything happens.

“I’m just about ready to go now Bear”, I said. “Yep, let’s go”, said Bear.

Bear lightly pushed us off from the shoreline and we started

paddling which was very hard since our canoe was full of lots of heavy stuff. We survived for 30 minutes until Bear got so tired that he leaned to one side and almost tipped the canoe. I had to yell, “BEAR WAKE UP! YOU’RE GOING TO TIP US AND YOU’RE GOING TO DROP YOUR UMBRELLA IN THE WATER!!!!!!”

Then in two seconds he was up just like that starting to paddle! All of a sudden I stopped paddling because bear was looking at something that just swam past us. I said it was probably just a sword fish but nope all of a sudden a big orca popped up and said “Hey guys I will tie a rope around me if you guys give me fish” and we said yes. Then just like that we were at the village and the library was right in front of the village.

Me and Bear got out of the canoe and ran right to the library to see if we can find the book about the village and their wizard who is supposed to be the sea wizard. We can’t find him. We try to find him in the book, we’ll find information on him and where he is. As soon as me and my friend Bear got in the library we asked for the book about their town. We got the book and the first page we went to said that a big orca whale is the sea wizard. I started to think that the orca that we promised fish to is the sea wizard so then me and Bear jumped in the canoe and paddled to the orca that was sitting in the water waiting for his fish.

We said you’re the wizard of this town, you’re the sea wizard and then he said “Yes, I am. I am the sea wizard and why do you care. “Well, we need your pearl because our wizard needs them,” I said.

“Why?”

“Because he wants to fix up his town.”

“Fine here is the pearl but bring it back though, ok?”

“OK.”

“Oh ya, it’s ok you don’t have to get me fish. I am full because the pearl does make food.”

“Ok, thanks.”

So then we were on our way back and the whale gave us another boost back to our village. We quickly went to our wizard, dropped the pearl off and got into our canoe again and started paddling to the next village. This time the village was only five minutes away so we were there in no time. And again the library was right there in front of the village called Gelert.

Me and my friend Bear hopped out and ran to the library and quickly picked out the book about the town and when we got to the fifth page there it was, information about the town and where their wizard lives.

“It says that the wizard lives in trees”, said Bear

“The tree wizard”, I said. “That’s their wizard. That’s the village’s wizard” So then my friend Bear and I ran to the forest and the first tree we knocked on was the tree that the tree wizard lives-in.

We know that because we heard a voice say “What do you want. I’m just a tree wizard.”

Then me and Bear said, “We need your pearl.” Then he comes out and he is a little tree frog.

“You’re a tree frog,” Bear said.

“Ya I am, and I’m very powerful with my pearl.”

“We need it to give it to my wizard. He needs it to fix up his town.”

“Well I guess, but return it to me by tomorrow. Now I have to get back in my tree so I can fix myself some dinner. I’m having sushi with a bit of soy sauce.”

“Well, bye then.”

“Well, we have the pearl. Can we get back to our wizard?” said Bear. “Ya, sure,” I said.

So then we were in the canoe again paddling only for 5 minutes. Just like that we were at our village again. We just hopped out and ran to our wizard, dropped the pearl off and got in the canoe again. But this time we were heading to Goodieanna which was a half hour away. This time me and Bear only lasted 20 minutes then we got very tired. This time Bear didn’t fall asleep, not after what almost happened last time!!

But still we got too tired to paddle, but all of a sudden a few seals popped up and said “We can make waves for you if you give us crab.

“Sorry we can’t. We don’t have crab,” I said.

“Wait,” said Bear, “we can give them our food.”

“Well sure,” I said.

And the seals accepted the deal and they made waves for us so we can go faster and it worked because we were at the last village in a second and again the library was right there. We jumped off the canoe and ran to the library and asked where Wizard lives. A man said he was the wizard. I asked for the pearl and he just gave it to us and didn’t even care. Then I said he must be the library wizard. Cool.

So then we rushed back to our village and we gave the pearl to our wizard and he said finally I have all three.

Then he held all three and just like that BOOOOOM all I heard was a big boom.

Then I turned around and there it was a whole new village with food everywhere.

Then I said “Oh thank you my wizard. We will never let you down.”

So after that Bear and I jumped in to our canoe and returned all the pearls back to their owners!

Judge’s comments: The Three Magic Pearls – The story takes us on a mythic journey handled quite nicely by the writer. The land of wizards and tree frogs came alive and the writer effortlessly integrated our five words into the scenario.



Chamber extends deadline for nominations

Know a business that goes above and beyond to serve their clients in Haliburton County? Or is your neighbour an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the community?

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce has extended its deadline for nominations for its fifth annual Business and Community Achievement Awards to Dec. 17.

This annual awards evening offers the opportunity to honour those local businesses and individuals. The award categories are as follows: Small Business of the Year (1-25 Employees, Member of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, in business for 3+ years); Large Business of the Year (26+ Employees, Member of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, in business for 3+ years); New Business of the Year (in business 3 years or less); Not-For-Profit Business of the Year (in business for 3+ years); Highlander of the Year; and

Customer Service of the Year – and this year for the first time – a Skilled Trades Award; an Innovation and Creativity Business Award; and an expanded age category for Young Entrepreneur of the Year to 35 yrs & under.

The awards evening will be held this year on January 15, 2011 at the Pinestone Resort, starting at 6 p.m. with a reception, with the dinner and awards ceremony following at 7 p.m. Tickets are now \$70 and available through the Chamber by calling 705-286-1760.

Anyone in the community can submit a nomination and this year, the Chamber has added an incentive to those nomination submissions – anyone who enters a nomination will have their name entered into a draw for a dinner for two at the Pinestone Resort. The more nominations submitted, the more chances to win. For more information or to download a nomination form, visit the Chamber website at www.haliburtonhighlandschamber.on.ca.

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Letters to Santa

Dear Santa
What is shach at the
North Pole? How are you
and Mrs. Claus and the
reindeer? They are some things I
want for Christmas
I got a toy
Show me
Santitas Grahtrix man Shree
all of those games for my dog
And drums to
I got a toy
Drums
Arhags Vetroh
games for my dog

From, Chase

Dear Santa,
I want a stinky the garbage truck
and my sister wants a new baby.
Gage

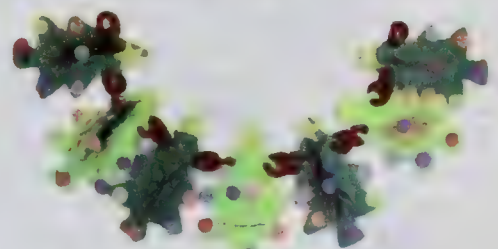
Dear Santa how are you doing
How is Peet doing
Curtis and I would like
for during dog and peet



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Dear Santa
How are you doing? How many elves
work in your workshop? How are your
reindeer? For Christmas I would like a
DSi because I am going to give my
DS to my brother. I would also like a toy
dog with a dog leash because I don't
have a toy dog. I would also like a GT
because I like to go sledding. I am seven
years old.
Love Mikayla
PS You and Mrs. Claus are the best.

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Moffatt delivers strong message to new council

(from page 2)

"And let's make sure as we move through the business that we have to do that we criticize the issues and not criticize each other. I think that's really important. And that goes for the public too. Let's look at the issues and make sure we make the right decisions. When we disagree, and we will disagree, there's no doubt about that, let's promise each other that we'll do it openly. We'll leave it at the table here and make sure that we do it with the best interest of the community in mind."

"People are watching us. They're looking for us to have successes and failures, so let's make sure we prove them right or wrong, depending on their point of view. Occasionally, it means having to choose a different battle or conceding a point. It always means doing the job with commitment and pride in the decisions we make and the job we do."

"Algonquin Highlands has a terrific history of staff and management stewardship and vision and I know that each of you want to help and contribute to that looking forward. Process and legislation are going to guide how we do our work. We each need to make sure we're engaged, prepared and we're committed to the next four years. The bottom line is pretty simple. Our job is to play by the rules, to conduct our business openly, and to communicate that business clearly to the public. I look forward to working with each of you around the table and with the staff of Algonquin Highlands and also with the public."

Moffatt welcomed the new members of council and thanked those people who attended the inauguration ceremonies for their interest and support. "I look forward to your ongoing support over the next four years," she said.

Councillor Liz Danielsen said: "I'm really honoured to be here representing Ward 2 residents and everyone in Algonquin Highlands and working towards the continued prosperity of the municipality. I'd particularly like to thank those people who supported me through a difficult campaign, especially my partner Jim. It's been very important to me and I can't thank you all enough. The outgoing council and staff have made a lot of improvements over the years and I can only hope that we're up to the challenges that we're facing now. I'm very grateful for the trust the voters have placed in me and despite the challenges ahead of us, I'm really excited and truly looking forward to working with our new reeve and the rest of council to meet the expectations of our residents here."

Councillor Gary Schultz said: "I'm very grateful to be here and what really is striking to me is the quality of the other members of the council and the reeve. I think that the community is very fortunate that these individuals are here at the table and I really

look forward to working with them and challenging each other."

Councillor Lisa Barry said: "I'd like to thank everyone for their support in my campaign and trust in my candidacy. I look forward to all the challenges ahead. I'm very excited about the learning curve. For a long period of time I considered myself a full-time student and I hope to be able to continue with that strong area of study and I look forward to working with everyone here."

Councillor Gordon Henderson said: "Just to pick up on Lisa's comment, the learning never stops, that's for sure. I feel honoured to represent the residents of Algonquin Highlands. I look forward to sharing a passion for good government with my fellow councillors, with our reeve, and with the staff. I plan to support the interests of our residents and that will lead to improving our county now and in the future. I believe in good financial planning and transparency. I thank you for your support."

Deputy Reeve appointed

In accordance with provincial regulations, the municipality must have a deputy reeve. The tradition within Algonquin Highlands has been for the newly elected council members to appoint a deputy reeve from among their peers. Reeve Moffatt explained: "We will make that decision by consensus. The position of deputy reeve is one of importance. It's the second person to go to the county and represent our issues at that level. It doubles the workload but it doesn't double the pay." She explained that the deputy reeve acts as the reeve's representative in the event the reeve is unable to attend a function or fulfill obligations. She added that the majority of the deputy reeve's added workload is at the county level.

Moffatt asked who among the four councillors had an interest in the deputy reeve's position. Liz Danielsen said she was interested in the position. "It is a position I'm quite interested in," she said. "I've talked to the rest of council about it. I think that my experience, having gone to all the county council meetings, would really help in the role and having a broader knowledge of the issues it faces. And I would hope that my past experience as a councillor and as a clerk would help to support me in that role."

"I'm very comfortable with that based on Liz's experience," said Schultz. "I'm grateful that Liz has put her name forward and I would support her." Barry also expressed her support and Henderson made it unanimous.

The new council's first item of business as a group was to appoint Liz Danielsen as its deputy reeve for the next four years.

The first meeting of the new council is today (Thursday, December 16). □



From left: Deputy Reeve Liz Danielsen, Reeve Carol Moffatt, Councillors Lisa Barry, Gordon Henderson and Gary Schultz



Top: The new Haliburton County Council gathered around Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey who was returned unanimously last night as county warden. From



left, Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid, Dysart et al Deputy Reeve Bill Davis, Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt, Algonquin Highlands Deputy Reeve Liz Danielsen, Highlands East Reeve Dave Burton, Highlands East Deputy Reeve Suzanne Partridge and Minden Hills Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch. Fearrey commented on the record number of women joining him at the county table and added that it was a good thing to see. Above: Former warden Dave Burton returns the chain of office to Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey who was returned on Tuesday night unanimously as warden for Haliburton County.

Photos by Mark Arike

Database of cultural assets will inform municipal decision making

(from page 10)

AuthentiCity's website further describes cultural mapping as an essential planning and economic development tool in Canadian municipalities.

The idea is to create a database of local cultural assets, to recognize the impact those assets have on the local economy, to better inform municipal decision-making and to increase awareness to locals and tourists, as well as increase community pride.

AuthentiCity describes cultural assets as including community cultural organizations, spaces and facilities, cultural heritage, natural heritage, creative cultural industries and festivals and events.

The AuthentiCity slogan is "rediscover the wealth of places" and in a consulting project they undertook in Prince Edward County, they identified agriculture, tourism, commerce industry and arts, culture and history as the four, interconnected cornerstones that define 'quality of place'.

Pagliaro said the use of 'story' to define a community's culture is perhaps best demonstrated by the experience of the town of Chatham-Kent. The town discovered their unique connection to the underground railroad through an invitation to share local history through story, and subsequently created an entire tourism economy based on preserving that local history.

At this time, the Haliburton County-based concept is intended to catalogue the county's cultural assets and hopefully pull some of that local oral history.

While the project will include community forums that will offer the opportunity to share local stories, Pagliaro and McBrien foresee that concept eventually developing into an interactive, multimedia website that will pinpoint every cultural or heritage facility or asset in Haliburton County, and offer the sharing of local stories, landmarks, characters and history through text, photographs or video.

Both McBrien and Pagliaro also stated that Haliburton County is already well known as a centre of excellence in the arts in Ontario, and they believe this project will help to further define that place as a unique tourism destination.

Dysart helps 'pave the way' with provincial 'walkability' award

According to the Communities in Action Committee, the villages of Haliburton and Minden are "paving the way" for 'walkability' in rural Ontario.



Sue Shikaze and Kate Hall, representing the Communities in Action Committee, presented Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey with an Ontario Walkability Award of Excellence at the Dec. 13 council meeting.

Photo by Laura Redman

Sue Shikaze and Kate Hall presented Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey with the Ontario Walkability Award of Excellence plaque at the Dec. 13 council meeting on behalf of the CAC committee. In presenting the award, Shikaze commended Dysart on the commitment to an active transportation plan and to incorporating active living into its official plan.

"There are many partners that are actively engaged in creating a healthy active community," Shikaze said, listing the health unit,

CAC, Haliburton County Development Corporation, U-Links, Head Lake Trails Committee and the Haliburton Business Improvement Area.

Shikaze added that when they actually sat down and wrote out the application for the award, they came up with an eight-page collection of efforts throughout the last five years. □



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26 Allsaw Church Christmas Concert 7:00 pm, Refreshments to follow	27 Euchre 7:00 pm, Club 35	28 Bridge 1:00 pm, Stanhope Community Hall Shuffleboard 1:00 pm, Stanhope Community Hall	29 Make Peace with Winter One Day Sampler Call 754-3436 or info@yoursouthdoors.ca	30 Torch Parade Village Green, Minden	31 New Years Eve Bash S.G. Memorial Arena, Minden	1 
2 Euchre 7:00 pm, Club 35	3 Quilters 9:30 am, Dorset Recreation Centre	4 Bridge 1:00 pm, Stanhope Community Hall Shuffleboard 1:00 pm, Stanhope Community Hall	5 Book Club 1:00 pm, Dorset Recreation Centre	6 Road Works by Diana Hillman Agnes Jamieson Gallery, Minden	7 Presented by Haliburton County Folk Society Call 754-3436 to reserve tickets Bid Euchre 7:00 pm, Club 35	8

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Dick Schell wins Minden volunteerism award



Dick Schell received the 2010 Gordon A. Monk Award for Volunteerism and Citizenship.

The 2010 Gordon A. Monk Award for Volunteerism and Citizenship was presented to Dick Schell at the annual Township of Minden Hills Volunteer Recognition and Christmas Banquet on Friday.

The award was created in 2008 by the Township in recognition of Gord Monk's achievements as well as the value he placed on volunteerism and citizen participation.

Mr. Schell has been a resident of Minden his whole adult life and he has served on the Ontario Provincial Police Auxiliary since 1967 (the longest serving volunteer in Ontario). He has a history of volunteerism that goes back many many years, not just with the police auxiliary.

He is also a part time guard with the Ontario Police at the Haliburton Highlands Detachment. He is on the Terry Fox committee and works at the Terry Fox run each September. He is currently the Chair of the Township's Committee of Adjustment and is the past Chair of the Haliburton/Victoria Housing authority, and past Chair and member of the Staunworth Non Profit Housing Authority.

Mr. Schell has been a great volunteer in the "Coats for Kids and

Adults Program", assisting the Lions Club members collecting clothing and making sure it is cleaned from September to the end of October so that those less fortunate will not suffer from the cold.

The selection committee agreed that that Gord would approve of the third edition of the award in his memory going to this pillar of our community.

The 2008 recipient was Linda Brandon, recognized for her many years of service in the community. In 2009, the Township recognized the tremendous contribution of Molly McInerney.

The award is intended to be presented on an annual basis, and consists of a plaque for the recipient as well as recognition on a master plaque kept on display at the Township Office.

Nominees for this award should have demonstrated extensive volunteerism over an extended period of time in multiple areas of service to our community.

Letters of Nominations for the 2011 award will be accepted until October 31, 2011 and should be addressed in confidence to the attention of the Township Clerk, PO Box 359, Minden, ON K0M 2K0. □

Moose radio-thon raises pile for food banks

By Laura Redman

The annual Christmas two-day Moose FM radio-thon got off to an average start, raising about \$6,000 heading into day two... but day two put that number through the roof.

The radio station raised more than \$20,000 during the two-day phone-in event and that money will be shared jointly between the Minden Food Bank and the 4-Cs Food Bank based in Haliburton.

Morning show host Rick Lowes posted an appeal on his online blog on December 7, asking the community to give generously and outlining the need.

"The number of 'customers' using the food banks has never been higher and is increasing every month," Lowes wrote. "Some staggering numbers to consider - children living in poverty in Haliburton County is at 42 per cent - that means one in every three kids.

"Teachers tell stories of kids coming to school without lunches, saying they forgot to make them at home because they are too embarrassed to say there was no food at home to make lunch," Lowes wrote. "Hungry kids are more likely to fall behind academically, they are more likely to be isolated socially and the physical implications are obvious. They need our help, so you can spare anything, please call the Moose Radio-thon... help make Christmas special for those in need."

When interviewed Tuesday morning, Lowes said, "I'm just the guy with the microphone, everybody else here at the station did all the work."

It was the fourth year for the radiothon - and Lowes second. Last year, they raised just over \$11,000. So why the increase? Lowes said there was a new awareness.

"I think a couple of things - last year on the same day we had that huge snowstorm and our walk-in traffic wasn't anywhere near what it was last year. And I think this year, we've had a lot of people in... to talk about the stats and to focus on the issue of poverty, so this year, everybody knew the issues," Lowes said.

Where does the money come from?

"Mostly from local residents - a lot of challenges from businesses - and that's not unusual, neighbours challenging neighbours, groups challenging groups. But obviously, we get some from the cottagers, folks listening on the Internet and that's nice. It's nice that they want to feel part of the community up here."

Lowes said the staff at the station is thrilled.

"We're really thrilled," Lowes said. "I joke around that I'm a pretty cynical guy, but there was a point in time between 5:30 and 6, when I kinda got choked up as the numbers were coming in and I think I can speak for everybody in here - they would agree with that. It was just amazing."

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the latest in news,
weather and sports**

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COURTESY OF Haliburton travel  & 

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music from the
80's 90's and
whatever
else**

Streaming live on the Internet
at moosefm.com/cfzn

Contest Draw February 4th 2011.

*For full contest rules & regulations, visit www.moosefm.com/cfzn. TravelPlus is a division of Transat Distribution Canada Inc.

Letters to Santa



Dear Santa,

I would like a colouring book and rainbow pony, rainbow dash. My mommy needs a new watch

I really don't need toys as I have lots - probably 100

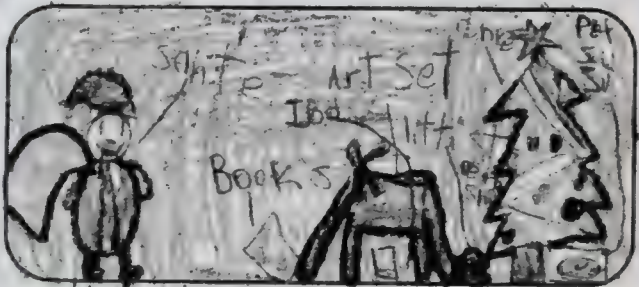
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Destiny

Dear Santa

How is the North Pole and How is Rudolph? Here is my list.

- Littlest Pet Shop
- Art Set
- ZUZU pets
- Some Books
- iPod touch



From, Bailey

With Our Thanks
For your Loyal Patronage

We've enjoyed your visits in 2010,
And hope to see you all again -
For one thing that we know is true,
Is we wouldn't be here without all of you!
So without any fanfare or further delay,
We'd like to wish you all a great holiday!

Steve, Carla & Staff
at **Minden Electric**

1016 Ravine Road
Minden, ON
705.286.2946

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
SEASONS GREETINGS

THANK YOU FOR SEEING US!

All signs point to a wonderful season,
and your kind patronage is the reason;
So let us make one thing perfectly clear -
We're grateful for your seeing us this past year!

Warm wishes from the staff at

HALIBURTON OPTICAL
Custom Contact Lenses & Contact Lens Care
457-9500

Dear Santa,
I love you and I like you - you are the best in the world!
Please can you give me a job I want to work in it really is the best job in the world!
I love you and I will love you forever!

Merry Christmas To All
from
Eagle Lake Adventures & Gifts

705 457-5001
Unit 6 & 7 - Lower Level V&S Mall

in-print

Last Minute Christmas Shopping List

- 150 Personalized Address Labels - \$15.00
- Business Cards - starting at \$30.00
- Personalized Calendars - Only \$19.99
- Personalized Note Pads - starting at \$15.00

when you want to leave a good impression... it's best to be....

Bonnie Thompson
inprint@countyvoice.ca
Together we can Creatively Cover Paper!

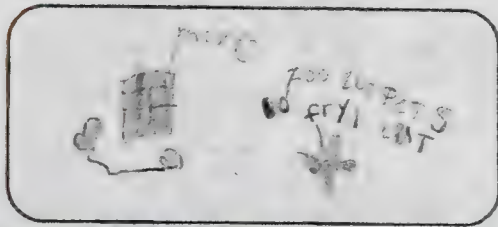
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Letters to Santa



Monday December 13
Dear Santa. How are the reindeer doing? Are the elves working hard? How is Mrs. Claus doing? I have been a great boy this year!!!! I'm kind! I'm helpful!! Santa can you please get me a 4x4 remote control truck and a DSi and a I Pod touch and a real drum. Set!! My best friend Brendan. Has been a good boy!!! How are you doing? I'm so happy that Christmas is coming!!!! From Aaron

Dear SANTA
Hello Santa! How are you?
How are the reindeer and
Mrs. Claus? I hope the
elves are all well.
Here is my Christmas list.
I want a walk and books
merry 200 200 lot



From, [unclear]

**GOOD FRIENDS.
GOOD TIMES.
GOOD HEALTH.
GOOD FOOD.
GOOD FORTUNE.**

GLAD TIDINGS TO YOU
AND YOURS AT THIS SPECIAL
TIME OF YEAR.

We feel fortunate to
have neighbors like you,
and are thankful for your
continued patronage.

**Kosy
Korner
Restaurant**

Sunny Side Up Book
(Memories of Kosy)
Still available!
Great Christmas Gift



A heartfelt
thank you to
all our clients
for their
patronage
this past year.

Our office
will be closed
from
Thur. Dec. 23, 2010
to Mon. Jan. 3, 2011
(inclusive).

**Wishing Everyone
a healthy and
prosperous New Year.**

Ray, Marilyn, Laurie, Sharon & Glenda

LAW OFFICE
Raymond Selbie & Staff

**JOY
HOPE
PEACE
HARMONY
CONTENTMENT**

With Our Thanks For Your Loyal Patronage

Thank you to all of our Customers for your business this past year.
We appreciate the work and look forward to serving you in 2011.

Merry Christmas to all and the best to everyone in the New Year.

**From the Staff & Families
of Churko Electric**

The Story Dec 7 2010
Dear Santa I have
been a really good
girl. I have been
washing the dishes
for Taylor and been
washing the counter.
What is up your
sleeve a stuffed
puppy? Candy please.
Tell me Santa on
Christmas Love from
an Briana



Season's Greetings One & All
Wishing you a
Very Merry Christmas
and a Joyful New Year!

**HALIBURTON
SOAP
FACTORY**
George, Elaine
and Lane Schmidt

www.haliburtonsoapfactory.com

**Best Wishes
for the Holidays !**
(705)457-9658

Haliburton Crane Rental
—Div. of ECS Environmental Concrete Systems Inc.

Merry Christmas

**from the Staff at
County Sign & Display**
705-286-6650
1022 Cty Rd 21, Minden

*Merry Christmas and
Joyous Holiday Wishes
from all your friends at
Re/Max*



*Bill
Kulas*



*Cathy Lancia
& Shirley Rule*



*Debra
Lambe*



*Denise
LeBlanc*



*Fred
Chapple*



*Geoff
Bunn*



*Jess & Jeff
Wilson*



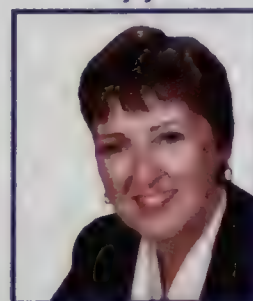
*Ruren
Wood*



*Ken
Barry*



*Linda Baumgartner
& Troy Austen*



*Lynda
Litwin*



*Lisa
Mercer*



*Marilyn
Hawley*



*Mary & John
Parish*



*Melanie
Vigrass*



*Peter
Brady*



*Rick Forget,
Jona Feoreau,
Mary Harnden &
Steve Logue*



*Ted
Pusey*



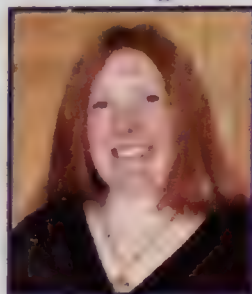
*Terry
Carr*



*Tom & Gail
Tempest*



*Vince
Duchene*



*Susan
Lee*



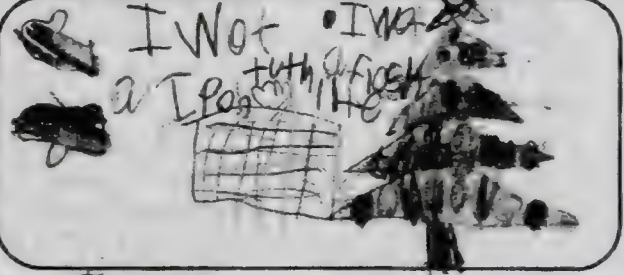
Bill Kulas Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 44	Family Home - \$215,000 This wonderful four bedroom home on a level and beautifully landscaped lot is within walking distance to school, library, shopping, curling club and hospital. Very quiet neighborhood in an area of fine homes. Featuring a warm and inviting eat in country kitchen, separate dining room, main floor den and laundry room, full basement, two full four piece baths, paved drive and a drive through two car attached garage with paved drive. A pleasure to show and certainly value priced with no HST! Check out all the details and the virtual tour at www.BillKulas.com and then call Bill Kulas for your personal tour today!	Lisa Mercer Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 46	Boundary Road - \$355,900 Century farmhouse on 78 acres built in 1899. One building on the property was built in 1838. The barn was built in 1918. Barn foundation needs some work. New roof on house. Large 2 story home with 4 bedrooms and lots of character. Huge living room and separate main floor family room with a wood stove.
Cathy* Lancia & Shirley Rule Kennisis Lake Office 754-4242	Kennisis Lake - \$477,900 4-season cottage, cozy & spacious, w maple flrs & pine cthdrl ceilings, wdsrve w stone hearth and backing, lrg mudrm w lndry, 3 bdrms, 1 1/2 baths, oak kitchen w views of lake generator. Lot w gentle slope @ rear & level to the sand & rock shoreline South-West view \$499,900	Marilyn Hawley Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 237	Lake Kashagawigamog - \$499,000 Lovely 2 storey, 3 bdrm. cottage with the perfect screened porch, lovely flagstone landscaping and perennial gardens and deep water off the dock. There is even a great 2 bdrm. Bunkie for the guests. Located on our premiere 5-lake chain, this cottage has it all. You will never want to leave!
Debra Lambe Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 244	Little Cameron Lake - \$249,900 Lovely summer cottage on tranquil & quiet lake with southern exposure. Renovated cottage situated on level waterfront lot on Little Cameron. The lot offers 135 feet of shoreline and 0.86 acres, southern exposure and trees surrounding the west and north side of the lot for a wonderful forest feel. This comfortable 775 sqft cottage offers open concept livingroom/kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, large lakeside deck and screened in porch for extra living space. Fine ceilings throughout. Sleeping bunks for guests. Deep shoreline off dock and Bass and Pickerel fishing. Premium lot at end of road. 10 minutes from Haliburton. Cottage is furnished and lake dock included. Ready to enjoy!	Marj & John Parish Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 226	Getaway Property! - \$449,000 7800 Feet of Frontage on Esson Creek, 466 Acres! Abuts 1000's of Acres of Crown Land. Esson Creek is Great for Speckle Trout Fishing! Hydro Available! Great for Hunting, Fishing & ATVing.
Denise LeBlanc Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 33	Haliburton 45 Acres - \$309,000 This is an excellent opportunity for someone who has horses or who wants a country spread with their own pond located just minutes outside of Haliburton. Very solid/bright 3 bdrm bungalow with a full walkout basement and the most awesome oversized garage with an upper studio/loft that's big enough to house dance classes. Some of the many features of this lovely rural property are 45 acres, pond, hardwood flrs, oak cabinetry, central vac, paved drive & underground hydro. Come have a look. Call Denise.	Melanie Vigrass Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 40	Building Lot - \$37,900 This lovely rural building lot is centrally located between Minden and Haliburton. The lot has already been cleared and the majority of landscaping has been completed with a beautiful pergola overlooking a grassed area and fire pit.
Fred Chapple Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 43	Custom Built Home - \$279,000 Here is your chance to own a custom built side split home (1996) in a quiet neighbourhood. 3 bedrooms, master/suite and jacuzzi. The skylight brightens the kitchen area and lots of windows surround the living room/fireplace. An artisan drilled well, newer wood floors and roof shingles, serviced by a municipal road, 2 car attached garage. Short distance to Minden or Haliburton. This property is worth the drive. Call for appointment to view.	Peter* Brady Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 234	Fabulous Log Drag Lake - \$949,000 This fabulous executive custom log home offers you the warmth of wood and stone throughout with three luxury levels of private areas for contemplation and public gathering places around the skylite island kitchen, dining and sunrooms all level walkout to sunrise decks or sunset patios with long lake views across desirable Drag Lake. Now being offered at will below cost - This cannot be replaced for \$949,000
Geoff Bunn Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 242	Davis Lake - \$659,000 Custom built 3 storey waterfront cottage/home in quiet bay on Davis Lake. This 3300 sqft home features 6 bdrms (3 with walkouts), 2-3 pc baths, 2-5pc baths (cedar). Interior finished in Pine walls and ceiling throughout. HRV system, central vac, 200 amp in floor water system, solar water & heating system. All appliances & furnishings incl. Level lot with southern exposure on great family lake Shoreline Road allowance owned.	Ted Vasey Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 223	Gull River - \$309,000 1009 Tiffany Lane Absolutely gorgeous home on the Gull River south of Minden - tastefully refinished inside and out - oak kitchen and hardwood floors - open concept living - 12 ft. fieldstone fireplace in living room and family room - 3 + 1 bedrooms - pine doors and trim - exercise rm - new septic and drilled well - attached garage - 150 ft on river - miles of boating to Minden and Gull Lake
Jess & Jeff Wilson Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 233	Residential - \$319,000 You don't want to let this turn key home pass you by. This beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home is in a quiet and prestigious area. Modern open concept living area has 9' ceilings with skylights over the kitchen allowing for natural sunlight. Generously sized bedrooms, master has walk-in closet and a 4 piece ensuite. The main floor has maple hardwood and ceramic throughout, wood burning fireplace on main floor and propane insert in the basement. This tastefully decorated home also features a fully finished basement.	Terry Carr Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 236	Two Properties For One Price - \$299,000 Room for the whole family! Cozy and bright cottage or home with huge deck overlooking a spectacular lake view. Combination waterfront with two separate dock areas as well as a lakefront entertainment deck. A large, low maintenance well treed lot with dramatic rock faces and perennial gardens. A double detached garage, heated and insulated includes a fully appointed and independently serviced, 2 bedroom guesthouse backing on hardwood bush with trails throughout. A granite patio with fire pit completes the landscaping. THE PLUS - a separately deeded waterfront lot with clearing, driveway and acreage! Great value
Karen Wood Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 39	Irondale - \$118,000 Very private lot fronting on Irondale River. 2 Bedroom cottage, open concept - finish it your way! Perfect for the handyman! Very level lot, easy access on Hwy 503 between Irondale and Gooderham. 164 ft of water frontage - put your canoe in and enjoy the ride.	Tom** & Gail Tempest Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 41	Original Log Cabin - \$399,000 Fabulous log cabin on a double lot with 265 feet of frontage on beautiful Horseshoe Lake. Very private, well treed gently sloping lot with western exposure. This property is owned by one of the original founding families on the lake. Gorgeous pine floors and a stone fireplace. Cottage is rustic and loaded with charm. Chinking and painting of replacement logs in front will be completed prior to closing. Priced for quick sale
Ken* Barry Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 228	Grossman Lake - \$479,900 This very secluded, private setting on this great bass fishing lake may be just what you are looking for! The private 400 acres with 40 acre lake abuts Crown land giving you all kinds of hunting & exploring opportunities. The two bedroom cottage with attached garage is wired for generator and is also equipped for propane. A must see for the privacy seeker at an attractive price!	Vince** Duchene Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 225	Original Log Charm - \$179,900 History filled log home on 3.5 acres. The original log home was erected in the late 1800s and then was joined by a new addition in the early 2000s to create a spacious, 3 bedroom, 1.5 story country home filled with warmth and charm and unique in nature. Call today for more information or for a personal tour of the property. Go to: www.9281countryroad563.ca for a complete graphics presentation and tour. Asking \$179,900
Linda* Baumgartner & Troy Austen Haliburton Office 457-1011 ext. 231	Cty Rd 21 Home - \$239,900 Great location between Haliburton & Minden on nearly 5 acres. Privacy, country surroundings with a very well maintained 3br home Plus large garage. Good value for your family home or investment.	Rick*** Forget, Iona Fevreau, Mary Hamden & Steve Pogue Wilberforce Office 448-2222	Wilberforce - \$149,900 3 bedroom home with attached double garage, modern kitchen flooring consists of broadloom, ceramic tile and laminate. Patio doors lead to spacious double deck. Beautiful level landscaped lot at end of quiet side road. Close to all amenities. Unfinished basement with high ceilings if someone wanted to finish a nice sized family room there. New seamless eaves trough installed in Sept. of 2009. New double deck built in Sept. of 2009 and the home is finished off with easy maintenance vinyl siding.
Lynda Litwin Minden Office 286-2911 ext. 35	In Town Home - \$243,400 Lovely 3 + bedroom home with wood floors, south facing sun room, attached garage. Oak kitchen, updated bathroom and finished basement. Move into town before the snow flies!! Call to view	RE/MAX Brokerage - Independently Owned & Operated Haliburton Highlands Realty Ltd.	

Susan Lee
Mortgage Specialist
457-3207

"I SHOP YOUR BUSINESS WITH ALL THE BANKS TO SAVE YOU TIME"
Having access to over twenty lenders enables me to offer the best suited mortgage products, at the most competitive rates and terms. Together we will explore your financial and personal goals to ensure that you are matched with the mortgage product that best suits your objectives. Remember you don't pay us, the lenders do. I offer evening and weekend appointments. Knowledge is power so take a minute and call me to discuss your options.

Call Susan
457-3207
MORTGAGE
BROKERS.COM

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl. And I was thinking about you. What I wanted for Christmas. Well I'm going to tell you how I was a good girl. So I have listened to my mom and dad and have been sharing my toys at my school. I have also been helping people out at my school. And here are the things I want for Christmas. I want a game my dad has a phone for my own room a pair of new blue jeans, 3 sunglasses and a hat. I want a purple = red = orange = blue = yellow = dark green. Thank you love Natalie

Wednesday December 8th 2010
Dear Santa
Hello Santa How are you How are the Reindeers and Rudolph and Mrs. Clark I hope the elves are all well Here is my Christmas list
• I want movies I want a dog
• I want 2 • I want a ZOOZOO Pet
• I want a mittens

From, James

Letters to Santa

HIGHLANDS TOWING
IS NOW OFFERING
FREE
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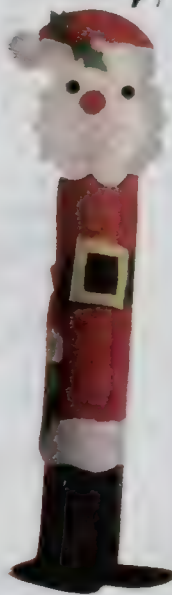
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SEASON'S GREETINGS
**PEACE.
JOY.
THANKS!**
YOUR FRIENDSHIP
AND SUPPORT
MAKE IT ALL
WORTHWHILE!
BEST WISHES FOR
A VERY MERRY
SEASON FROM
ALL OF US
AT THE...
**EAGLE LAKE
COUNTRY
MARKET**

Dear Santa, I want two toys this Christmas and the two toys are a set of Lego Atlantis and a movie costume. Questions: Do you want a red boot or black boots? Why do you want a red suit? How do you want a reindeer?



Dear Santa,
I am getting a new baby after Christmas. Gage wants a new truck. I want a new doll that is big. I will leave you some carrots for the reindeer and cookies for you. My mommy, daddy love me.
Lundyn



As we approach the end of another year we wish to say thank you to all our Customers and offer best wishes for the Following Year
JLB Korman
Construction Limited
HWY 35, Minden, 206-1440

**"At Christmas play
and make good cheer,
For Christmas comes
but once a year"**

...Thomas Tusser

Here's hoping you enjoy every minute of the coming season.

For your business, we're truly thankful and look forward to seeing you again, soon.

From Steve, Mike & Tanya
at
Royal Homes Minden

At the Holiday Season our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible. It is in the spirit we say...
THANK YOU AND BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAYS AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
Susan Lee, CFP
Sylvie Plante



**With Warm Regards
At The Holidays**

WISHING YOU ALL THE BEST DURING THE HOLIDAYS AND THE COMING YEAR.

Steve, Andrea, Brian, Jane,
Alison, Mike & Rosie

Roberts-Austin Fuels

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Hyland Taxi and its affiliates Personalized Limousine Services and Erik's Taxi have provided dependable, safe and reasonably priced transportation services since the early 70's. We are extremely reliable, and in fact at several times we have been the only taxi service operating in the area. We never close.

Considerable diversity of services between taxis, limousine, buses and specialized vehicles are offered. In 2006 after obtaining a PVA Permit a 24 passenger Limo bus was introduced accompanied in 2010 by a 22 passenger shuttle bus and two 12 passenger vans. In 2008 Hyland Taxi added the only commercially operated wheelchair and stretcher accessible van in the county to its variety of services.

Not limited to transporting people, vans and station wagons are available to transport larger and/or numerous items. Several vehicles equipped with trailer hitches are available for towing needs. Also offered are cab and a half services, ensuring both people and their vehicles are delivered safely home. Delivery services are also available, and we are licensed for the delivery of alcohol.

In 2008 upon requests from businesses and people taxis became stationed in the Minden area improving service throughout the county. In an effort to make our services accessible to more people terminals accepting debit, master card and visa as well as reusable Hyland gift cards are available in all the vehicles.

Hyland Taxi is proud to be the main provider of transportation in the area particularly, to the relief of many parents, the youths in the area who are often without rides late at night.

Hyland Taxi providing transportation services throughout the Highlands anywhere, anytime with anything.

Solutions For All Your Transportation Needs

Advertorial

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Property Management
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 156 Highland Street

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Left, The little snowflakes sit on stage as they join the Snow Queen for a performance. Top, The Nutcracker (Gustavo Alexis Rojas) plays with a soccer ball in one of the acts. Above, Godfather Drosselmeyer (Tim Nicholson) brings a doll to life (Jessica Bishop); background Anne Archer, Phil and Michelle Dulong, Rebecca Yang, Amy Black, Michelle Perry and Kameron Anderson.



Thinking for a special gift this holiday season?

Putting outside the box

Give a donation in someone's name to any of these local charities and receive a gift certificate to put under the tree or in a stocking. A truly special way of sharing the Christmas spirit.

Dear Santa;

I don't want any more socks
No ties, or slippers too
What I need- I really need
Is some help from you!
Please help me brighten someone's day
This festive time of year
And give the gift of giving, bringing Christmas cheer

SIRCH Community Services

- Hospice
 - Mammies in Life
 - Saw Respiteful
 - Children 0-6
 - Pregnancy Support
 - Community Kitchen
 - Families
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www.sirch.on.ca



YWCA

- Turning Point for Women
 - Crisis & Support Counseling
 - Haliburton Rural Safety
 - Safety Planning
 - Free & Confidential Services
- (705)286-6442
www.ywcahaliburton.org

Mindan Foodbank

- clients served in November was over 100, substantially up from the previous year.
- (705)459-1715



Community Care

- Supporting seniors and disabled adults through Meals on Wheels, Emergency Response System, Transportation.
 - Donations are being accepted through our
 - Feed a Senior Christmas Campaign
 - Sothy Morrison Charity Hockey Tournament 1st weekend in February
 - Community Care Christmas Bowling Party
- (705)457-2941
www.communitycarehaliburton.com

Youth Unlimited

- Bridge Youth Center
 - We see the hope and potential of everyone's young person
 - Friday Drop-in nights for the youth in the Community
 - Serving and connecting in the schools (AETC, JONES & HESS)
 - March Break and Summer Programs
 - Community Events
- (705)854-0401
www.youthunlimited.com



Fuel for Warmth

- Emergency heating program for families in need
- (705)286-3561

*Thank you to
The County
Voice for their
support of this ad*



The Highlands Wind Symphony's 12th Annual Christmas Concert was held on Dec. 5 and they had many performing guests along for the musical ride. The Highlands Swing Band performed rousing versions of "Caravan" "Georgia on My Mind," and "All The Things You Are." Carl Dixon, late of Coney Hatch, April Wine and the Guess Who is pursuing a solo career in the Highlands and released a new CD titled 'Lucky Dog' a few weeks ago.



Sounds of the season

The Highlands Wind Symphony's 12th Annual Christmas Concert was held on Dec. 5 and they had many performing guests along for the musical ride. The Highlands Swing Band led by Judi Paul's whimsical baton belted out rousing versions of "Caravan" "Georgia on My Mind," and "All The Things You Are." Jerelyn Craden, one of Haliburton's lovely singing treasures wowed the crowd with a superb rendition of "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." Carl Dixon, late of Coney Hatch, April Wine and the Guess Who is pursuing a solo career in the Highlands and released a new CD titled 'Lucky Dog' a few weeks ago. He performed two songs from that CD to the delight of an appreciative crowd, and returned to play "Look for me in Dreamland," - a song written for his daughters when he used to spend a lot of time on the

road, and then a haunting and unequivocally inspired version of "O Holy Night."

About 200 people attended the Highland Concert Band's first annual Christmas concert held at St. George's Anglican Church on Dec. 10. The event was such a trumpeted success that the band decided right then and there to make it annual. Keeping with the Christmas theme, the band played old time Christmas favourites and featured several sing-a-longs for an appreciative audience. The concert also featured the world-class talent of Bethany Houghton who performed two cello solos, accompanied by another world-class talent, Bill Gliddon, organist at St. George's Anglican Church. After the concert, musicians and audience members all gathered in the church community room to enjoy treats and hot apple cider. □



Highland Concert Band's first annual Christmas Concert on Friday night at St. George's Anglican Church in Haliburton featured band member Carol English, who performed a saxophone solo. Above, Dave Hawley performed on the oboe and Marci Mandel on the flute.



Fundraiser for Pakistan:

Eleanor Cooper organized an event held on Dec. 3 at the West Guilford Community Centre to raise funds for the Red Cross to help the victims of the 2010 flooding in Pakistan.

The evening was hosted by Roxanne Casey, station manager of Canoe FM, and featured the talents of the Algonquin Brass, Outloud Womyn, Bill Gliddon, Margaret Milne and many others in a delightful evening of entertainment.

The music may have been varied, but the spirit of helping those suffering was consistent throughout the evening.

Heavy monsoon rains created the flooding that has affected about 20 million people - about 10 million people have been forced to drink unsafe water. The floods have contributed to 1,781 deaths, 2,966 people with injuries, and more than 1.89 million homes destroyed.

The event raised hat raised \$652.



Top: The Out Loud Womyn, led by choir director Beth Johns performed several harmonious numbers for the fundraising effort, while Margaret Latimer, Paul Holmes, Jeff Barry and Doug Barry played some old country favourites to an appreciative crowd. Bill Gliddon, the organist at St. George's Anglican Church in Haliburton, delighted the audience with several exceptional piano pieces.



Wanakita:

Above, Zebedee Jones, 16 months, offers Tony the Tiger a high-five at the Wanakita breakfast with Santa Claus event held on Dec. 4. The event was free to the community and featured crafts, face painting, a yummy breakfast and of course, a visit with the Jolly Ol' Elf. Above right, Lacey Sisson, 4 years, enjoyed the crafts and painted a lovely picture to take home.

Highland Wood Bazaar:

Left, Highland Wood held it's 10th annual Christmas bazaar on Dec. 4 for visitors and residents to enjoy shopping unique gift and craft items. Brenda Bain and Robin Woodcock enjoyed their visit to the bazaar and picked up some Christmas gifts for their friends and families.



Fibre artist Stephanie Bell strikes a pose with the wearable art she's made this past semester at the Haliburton School of the Arts.



The ladies of the "Lochlin Little Lassies" sing their spoof version of the 12 Days of Christmas at Christmas in Camarvon.



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Gav on Sports

Girls and guys hockey seasons commingle

By Terrance Gavan

Exploring possibilities.

This year the NHL Hall of Fame did just that when they named two women - Angela Davis and Cammie Granato - to the Hall of Fame.

Big step.

Harkening on that seminal event, movers and shakers at Haliburton Highlands Secondary this year embarked on a much anticipated and long awaited journey.

Young women in our local high school now have a "league of their own."

Hal High entered its first team in the Kawartha Girls Hockey League.

Last Wednesday afternoon the girls won their home opener 5-3 against the visiting Adam Scott Lions.

They're 1-1 on the season - following a 5-0 loss to Holy Cross in Peterborough.

Hawks scored three shorthanded goals and received an outstanding performance from their goaltender Jillian Mayhew.

The 'Ladyhawkes' are now 1-1 on the season. Sam Tallman and Julia Fedeski scored two goals apiece.

Strong start for a young team, still learning to play together.

It'll be a season of firsts and a bellwether for hockey in the Highlands.

Not just because it gives local girls who eschew spiked toes for round bladed Tackaberries a forum for their talents.

But because young girls growing up in the hockey-mad Haliburton Highlands will have an option to pursue high caliber shinny right here at home.

With high school hockey comes exposure to scouting; university hockey; and that pervasive possibility of Olympic Gold.

The Kawartha High School Girl's Hockey League will perchance toil in semi-obscurity for the nonce, overshadowed by a plethora of hockey venues available in this gentle frozen niche of God's Harsh Hectare.

But this one small pinprick of light at the end of a once untrammeled tunnel is providing impetus to the young girls growing up.

Oh. Remember that a small buoyant light in a tunnel usually means that CN freight train is headed your way. So? Clear the track Eddie Shack.

Points of light. Goals and opportunities. Hockey crazy girls in grade 4 and 5 and 6 can aspire today; can dream of suiting up for the Red Hawks.

Believe it. Women's hockey is here to stay. It will survive in spite of slightly misogynist rumblings and harsh rhetorical bupkis

emanating from fat, obsequious, overstuffed, lugubrious Luddite toadies that run the International Olympic Committee and the IIHF (Int. Ice Hockey Federation).

The IOC and the IIHF would like to remove women's hockey from the Olympics citing a lack of balance.

Geez good thing the IOC brain trust weren't around when lumberjacks out of Trail, BC were beating the crap out of the best Germany, Russia and Italy had to offer in the 40s.

No. Thankfully women's hockey will survive the congenital idiots and faux aristocracy of the IOC and the IIHF because there are girls in Canada and around the world who are willing to get up at 6 am and trudge over to their local arena. Women's hockey will survive because little girls dream. And women's hockey will survive because of supportive coaches like Dan Marsden, Bruce Griffith and Vince Duchene.

The triumvirate of Marsden (HHSS principal), Griffith (HHSS coach and teacher) and Duchene (dedicated volunteer and survivor of many a road trip with son Matt Duchene of the Colorado Avs) have invested no small amount of time since September to ensure that the Red Hawks girls hockey team transition from club team to Kawartha League participant is seamless.

They took a giant leap of faith this year and I'm thinkin' that it's already paying dividends; and providing solace and grace for young girls who may sleep every night under a poster of Stamkos or Sid the Kid or Hayley Wickenheiser.

I was at the Legion Public Speaking day in Wilberforce last winter and heard a young girl speak of her own vision. Her dream? Scoring a winning goal for Team Canada in the Olympics. A young girl who grew up idolizing number 4 Bahhby Orr. I was impressed by her enthusiasm, not just for the game, but for the possibilities inherent.

She was devoted to the sport. And now she will have an opportunity to grow and develop and possibly join the Red Hawks as she moves forward in her education and through her own hockey progression. Springboards, head starts and dedication to goals.

I was there for that inaugural home game last week at the old Dysart Barn. They played under banners proclaiming a proud history of Haliburton hockey success.

This year they'll have a chance to add to those banners and the lore inherent.

What am I saying? They already have... embarked.

Get ready for that beautiful alliterative, "she shoots, she scores." Better yet. Get out and watch this young Red Hawk club.



Sam Tallman and Julia Fedeski celebrate the Ladyhawkes first ever goal.

Bring your daughters and your sisters.

Dreams start here.

And end?

That's what's nice about dreams. They never end.

Girls Red Hawk hockey on a three win roll

The Ladyhawkes hockey team are on a roll.

After dropping their inaugural game in the Kawartha Girls Hockey League (KGHL) the Hawks are now on a three game tear. They won their home opener last week - 5-3 over Adam Scott - and this week they beat Norwood 7-5 and on Tuesday afternoon they beat a depleted Port Hope team - PH came with only 6 skaters and a goaltender - 4-1.

Megan Allore had a hat trick to lead all scorers in Norwood. Jessica Duchene chipped in with an assist and 2 goals - including the winner. Sam Tallman had one goal and two assists and Julia Fedeski added a goal.

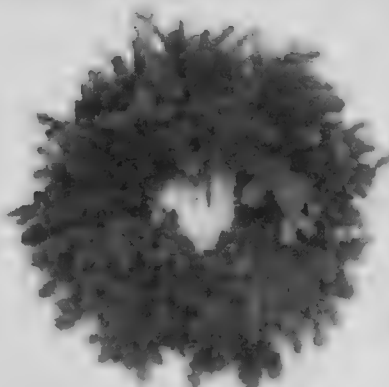
On Tuesday at the Dysart Barn the Red Hawks dominated Port Hope. Tallman scored the winner and added two assist to lead the Hawks. Allore contributed two goals and Duchene scored unassisted to get things started for the Hawks.

Super steady Jillian Mayhew was credited with both wins and has been sizzling between the pipes for the Hawks thus far into the season.



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Flying Hawks speed past St Thomas Titans 8-0

By Terrance Gavan

Me old Da' – a pretty fair hockey player back in the day – was a big fan of what he used to call the "headman" pass.

We watched a lot of hockey together, and Pops bled Toronto Blue.

But as a true fan of the game he was forever enthralled with Les Rouge et Bleu.

Les Montreal Canadiens played the headman game to perfection.

Tic-Tac-Toe Blake. If my pops hadn't passed away back on Christmas Day 1972, I'm pretty sure that the entrenchment of the zone trap would have killed him.

Standing on a shaky ladder in a silent corner of Dysart Barn last Monday evening, watching the Haliburton High Red Hawks pummel visiting St. Thomas Aquinas 8-0, I could just about feel old P.A. (Phillip Anthony) over my shoulder, smiling through my eyes.

He would have loved it. Puck movement, threaded passes, rotation to the open man, quick feet and unselfish play.

Head man play only works with team speed and cohesiveness back to front.

Things that the Red Hawks possess in spades. Witness their 4-0 record in league play, a returning nucleus of unprecedented proportion, and strong, dedicated and knowledgeable people behind the bench.

If there was a hockey equivalent of the perfect storm this Red Hawks team would certainly qualify on a number of fronts. Maturity, returning vets and overall team speed keep this team spinning in overdrive.

Last Monday the Hawks delivered a clinic on puck movement, precision passing and the infectiousness of something that former Hawk Matt Duchene likes to call "moving the feet."

It started back side with the strong presence of veterans Drew Paul, Greg Clements and Zach Boice a triumvirate of blueliners that possess the calculated cool necessary to begin the whole headman process.

After that it's left to the front line to spot the holes and get to them before they close.

In an age where the zone trap – arggh! – can make impoverished teams into giant killers, it's thrilling to watch a team like the Red Hawks pop the cork on that dead weight system.



Ian Bottum and Ashton Hailey speed to the net.

Last Monday two guys rose to prescience, finding numerous holes in the St Thomas Titans' wall.

Ashton Hailey turned into a hockey version of Steve Nash scoring once and adding six – count 'em – six assists. Ian Bottum, the team's designated dervish on this night scored twice and added three helpers.

Keaton Gadway scored the game-winner just three minutes into the contest. Jordan Howe also scored a pair, while Aaron Hillier and Paul added singles. Chad Larue and Gadway had an assist apiece and Zach Harrison got credit for the shutout. Team effort, team win.

Bottum, always a crowd pleaser with his penchant for two-way play and hard-charging attitude, said that the Hawks have been working as a unit.

"We were skating well and moving the puck well tonight," said Bottum. "No one was selfish and we were playing as a team."

And that unselfishness seems to be the abiding theme for this club. Last game it was Mark Vasey and Brett Yake taking the lead, and on Monday it seemed that an entirely different cast stepped up.

Bottum added that the fuel that drives this machine is hustle and movement. "We were strong defensively with good back-checking and we got the puck out of our end pretty easily," said Bottum. He added that once the game was in hand – Hawks led 2-0 after one and 4-0 after two – it gave the Hawks some time to work on various parts of their repertoire.

Bottum like the rest of the Hawks are all looking forward to this week's trip to a prestigious tournament in Lake Placid, New York.

The Hawks leave by bus today (Thursday, Dec 16) and return on Sunday. The Hawks are in a division with teams from Manitoba, Delaware, Quebec and Lakefield College. Hawks play two games Friday and another pair on Saturday with the playoffs slated for Sunday.

Bottum said that this latest win was a nice lead in for the tournament. "We're going to be playing some good teams in Lake Placid and we're looking forward to the trip," said Bottum. He added that it will give the whole team a chance to measure itself in the heat of tourney play, and perhaps even give them some premonitions about how to approach this year's run at Kawartha, COSSA and OFSAA.

Yake summed it up with the one constant that should become a buzzword for the rest of the season.

"We're a fast team and we play together; the guys seem to get it and they know what it takes to be successful," said Yake post-game. "Their goalie had a good game, but I thought that we just kept coming and we got a few goals on scrambles in the slot... just a good, solid effort from everyone."

Yake allows that the Kawartha High School League as always has its share of weak sisters. He added that the game this coming Monday night at Dysart against AAA Fenelon Falls Falcons should provide the first true test of the season.

"Fenelon has a pretty good team, so that game will be interesting," said Yake. Even more interesting considering the Hawks will be playing a lot of hockey in the three days leading up to their fifth league game.

Game time at Dysart for that Falcons and Red Hawks game is 7:15 pm.

Contact Gav: gav@pardontheeruption.com ; twitter.com/terrancegavan. Follow Haliburton Sports pages at haliburtonsports.blogspot.com. □

Senior Hoops Hawks feather the Nest in home opener

By Terrance Gavan

Luke Watson is taking his victory lap this season.

And Hal High coach Roland Zilla is pretty happy that Watson, a power forward with a handsome touch and strong inside game, chose to stay for his cohort year.

Watson was a dominant presence for the Red Hawks senior club last season and he returns to the Hawks, a year wiser and a season smarter.

Watson remains a hellzapoppin' firecracker; a game-changer with game.

Last Tuesday in the Hawks' home opener, Lanky Luke scored 20 points to lead all scorers in a convincing 43-22 victory over Brock High School.

Shooting guard Jesse Walker and pivot man Jesse Lefebvre each added six points to the cause.

Chris Allison, Caleb Zilla and Damon Flatman took turns feeding the beast as Watson prowled the paint and outer edges of the Brock zone, scoring at will.

"Watson is a solid player, but he can still play better," said Zilla after the game. "We'd still like him to go up a bit stronger, but he really played well out there today."

The win moves the Hawks seasonal tout to 3-1, but that record was challenged on Wednesday when the class of the Kawartha league Lindsay's I.E. Weldon comes to visit. (Results from that game will be in next week's Voice.)

Zilla said that Weldon – with a league-leading 4-0 record – remains the team to beat, a triple A threat with depth.

"Weldon beat Brock by 50 points, and they have 12 athletes that can all play," said Zilla.

Zilla said that one of his team's strengths is the ability to rise to occasion.

A trait that will certainly come in handy as the Hawks attempt to deal with the Weldon juggernaut.

Sitting in the stands watching the junior Hawks play out the doubleheader against Brock, Zilla was already planning for the Weldon game.

He said the key to beating the Wildcats is ball control.

Play run and gun with the long bench and quick transition game will only lead to trouble.

"We plan to play a strong half court game," said Zilla. "Our skill level always rises when we play Weldon and last season we were the only team to challenge Weldon all year."

"So we're going to try again, a good half court game and see what we can do. If we can hold them to under 50 we've done a great job and we'll have a chance at beating them."

Zilla, who plans on retiring from the hardwood wars next season, is assisted this year by retired coach and teacher Walter Tose and newcomer Dave Waito.

Waito brings a brand new set of eyes to the mix and he's impressed.

"I was really happy with how Luke was a little more assertive going to the hole today," said Waito. "He's certainly a guy that we can rely on for a good chunk of our offense through the year if he has that mindset to take the ball to the hoop. Lefebvre is pulling down our boards consistently and Allison... we'd like to see a little more production out of him, getting the shots to drop but that'll come."

The annual red Hawk alumni game is slated for Thursday afternoon, Dec 23. Yours truly will be blowing one of the whistles, creaking up and down the hardwood and taking no prisoners.

Twitter @terrancegavan. Email - gav@pardontheeruption.com. □

Junior Hawks Hoops squad drop home opener in OT

Hoops is a cruel mistress.

Outcomes ride on nuance, subtle momentum, three point lines and chance.

Sometimes chance means an untimely bomb delivered from way beyond the arc.

And sometimes chance is just, well, a player named Chance Brown; and sometimes Chance just breaks your heart.

Brown, an erstwhile shooting guard from Brock High School,

stepped all over the Red Hawks junior hoops home opener last Tuesday when he knocked down two free throws to send the game to overtime with no time left on the clock. Brock went on to win the game 57-52.

Brown, who was a non-factor in a first half dominated by the Hawks suddenly found his inner Red Bull in the second half, scoring 19 points and powering a Brock comeback that started with that lonely trip to the charity stripe. Chance had only two points in a first half which ended 18-11 in favor of the home team.

Middle man Zach Cox led the Red Hawks with 14 points. Tanner Hamilton scored 13, Nathan Feir had 10 and Louis Ferracuti popped for 7 in the disappointing loss.

After the strong first half, the Hawks suddenly found themselves locked in a see-saw battle as the game went to the wire.

Hal High took a two point lead with just under 4 seconds left in the final period.

Brock managed to move the ball to half-court and that's when Chance took a hand, literally and figuratively.

Brown launched a leaping leaner from just past center court and was fouled just as the buzzer went.

Both teams cleared the court leaving Brown on the line with three shots and a possibility to put the game away.

Brown missed on his first and then drained the next two forcing overtime.

The Hawks were forced to foul for possessions down the stretch and in spite of closing the gap to three in the waning seconds, the Bulldogs managed to get the job done at the line.

Coach Paul Longo remained stoic after the game.

"It's junior ball and these things happen, we make mistakes and we learn" said Longo. "We missed some shots down the stretch and they took it to us in that second half. We're pretty evenly matched teams I think and it's one of those games that could have gone either way."

Longo said that although the Hawks controlled the game for three quarters, the fourth quarter presented a deadly combination of cold shooting and defensive miscues that ended up costing the Hawks dearly.

"There's lots of positives to take away from the game," said Longo. "We got out of our rhythm in the second half and quit playing our half court game and that cost us. Defensively we had some breakdowns in the second half and that's what got them (Brock) back in the game."



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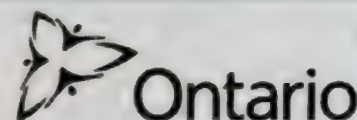
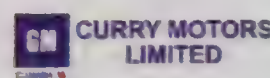


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The Haliburton pro watch

Duchene has most productive night of the season

By Terrance Gavan

Monday evening Matt Duchene and Paul Stastny Bang-Bang-Bangety-Banged off the ice – find it on YouTube, it's a hoot – after a dramatic come-from-behind 7-5 victory over Jon Toews and the defending NHL champion Chicago Black Hawks.

Duchene score twice and added an assist in the game – his most productive night of the season – and more important, the Avs remain well entrenched in the hunt for Northwest Division supremacy, stretching their league tilt to 16-10-4, tied with Vancouver for the Northwest lead. The Avs are currently tied for third in the Western Conference just five points behind Western leader Detroit.

Denver Post beat writer Adrian Dater said that newcomer Thomas "Flash" Fleishman and Duchene pulled this one out of the fire with a timely daily double.

"With time running out and the Blackhawks up 5-4 after a dispiriting power-play goal from a too-many-men penalty, Fleischmann and linemate Matt Duchene went to work," wrote Dater. "Fleischmann tied the game 5-5 with a screened wrist shot at 17:36. Exactly one minute later, the recently acquired left winger stole a puck from Brent Seabrook behind the Chicago net and fed Duchene for the game-winner." Ryan O'Reilly added the empty-net goal with 23 seconds left.

Duchene was named the game's first star and the scoring explosion moves his seasonal tout to 30 points in 30 games, a pretty significant milestone for this budding young sophomore who was plagued by a slow start again this season.

Duchene has 11 goals and 19 assists, and is right behind team leaders Milan Hejduk (11G-20A - 31) and Paul Stastny (13G-18A - 31) in Colorado scoring.

The Stastny and Duchene dancing duet is starting to capture league-wide attention and a lion's share of network coverage on cable sports networks like TSN, Sportsnet and ESPN.

Duchene – as reported in last week's Voice – is also getting recognition for his attempts at generating fan interest in Denver by signing on with a Twitter account. He currently has 7,000 followers and his post-game tweet on Monday was full of that infectious Haliburton exuberance.

"Great game tonight! PK, Flash and Pauly were sickkk! Glad everyone loves mine and Pauly's win dance! Haha great crowd tonight too, THANK YOU," twittered Duchene.

In another tweet Duchene said that the spiking viral "Denver Avalanche Dance" was actually inspired by the Bang-Bang-Bangety-Bang two-step (Google it) featured in an episode of popular sitcom "How I met your Mother."

And from jubilation we move to tribulation out west in Manitoba where young Haliburton Cottager Cody Hodgson – Vancouver Canuck product currently toiling for the AHL Moose – has encountered yet another roadblock on his exceptionally trying and frustrating journey to the NHL.

Hodgson took a stick under the face visor during a Manitoba Moose practice last week.

Hodgson, who was on a road trip at the time, was flown back to Winnipeg where he attended a clinic to assess an injury to the orbital bone near his eye.

Vancouver Province now suggests that the Canucks' highly touted prospect will be taking a wait and see approach to the injury.

"Cody Hodgson will not have immediate surgery to repair a chip and crack of an orbital bone," said the Province report. "He will wait to see if the ailment heals sufficiently on its own to allow him to play in the next two to three weeks. (Hodgson) was injured Thursday during a Manitoba Moose practice drill when struck by the high stick of teammate Lee Sweatt. Hodgson, 20, has 16 points (10-6) in 24 games with the AHL club and it was feared that he would require an immediate procedure to mend the ailment. Apparently not."

Just another spot of good news/bad news for Hodgson.

Could we possibly see a Stanley Cup match-up between two former Haliburton prodigies this year?

It certainly would be nice for the crowd at McKecks Blue Line if Hodgson and the Canucks were to be matched up against Duchene and the Avs in a seven game tilt.

Let's hope that Hodgson – who got some nice props from Steve Stamkos in an article last week – can somehow manage to catch a break this season.

He certainly deserves it. □



Owen Duhaime

Sweeping to Gore Regional playdowns for Red Hawk rink

By Terrance Gavan

It's been a while since Hal High had two teams in the hunt for the Gores.

For those unfamiliar with the provincial curling scene, the Gore Provincial schoolboy and schoolgirl bonspiel remains one of the most prestigious high school tournaments in Ontario.

Last weekend the Red Hawk boys rink qualified for the Whitby Regionals in February with a 6-3

B-side win over Adam Scott on Sunday at the Peterborough Curling Club.

The girls rink coached by Kathy Hutson fell just millimeters shy of capturing the A-Side final on Saturday. The Red Hawk girls – skip Laura Pottier, vice Holly Broderick, front ends Shannon Bittner, Emily Shapiera, and Alana Barnister – lost the B-side final on Sunday and will not be advancing to the regionals next February.

The boys coaches Tom Dibblee and Russ Duhaime said they were happy with the win.

Skip Jesse Walker, third Owen Duhaime, second Mike Mazara and lead Shawn Kadwell all keep sharp playing in the Haliburton Curling Club's competitive league on Monday nights.

The girls hone their skills out of the Minden Curling Club in the Monday ladies League.

Both teams start their seasonal wars in February competing out of Kawartha West.

Last Saturday the boys swept to a 7-1 victory over Fenelon and an 8-1 win over Adam Scott before falling 9-4 in the A-side final to St. Peter's.

The win over Adam Scott featured a strong performance from lead Kadwell who delicately placed a number of nice shots in the course of the game. □

Sir Sam's schusses into ski season

By Terrance Gavan

Some Highlands' chiropractors may be staring at a diminishing client base and bottom line this winter.

Many aging ski and snowboard instructors, moms and dads, and grandpas and grandmas could be eschewing the bone cruncher this winter – all because of a new Italian-designed people mover.

No more stooping over four-year-old Junior or Duchess on the old backbreaking handle tow.

No more stooping to pick Junior or Duchess out of harm's way after another fall off the old rope midway into the journey.

Of course bad news for the back crunchers means good news for beginner skiers and boarders at Sir Sam's popular Ski Area.

One tired old board and ski instructor took a ride up the new lift last Saturday on opening day, Saturday Dec 11.

Elton John was playing in the plexiglass tunnel and the ride up the moving rubber sidewalk was seamless.

In this newest version of the old "magic-Carpet" skiers simply walk on until skis engage and then ride up until the rubber delivers the skis to a snowbound exit jetty.

Boarders are asked to keep one foot strapped to the board with the back foot out. The ejection progression is just as simple with the boarders simply sliding off the moving rail and onto the snowy platform.

Stage one of the lift delivers clients to lower Cash Register or the Bunny Hill, both terrains excellent for beginner classes.

Ski School director Dave Webb is ecstatic about the new options and he's pretty confident that the lift will provide Sir Sam's with access to less frustrating lesson plans.

Beginner snowboarders and young skiers often found the handle tow unwieldy and difficult.

The new lift's purpose is twofold.

It gives easy access to usable terrain and it also moves people to the top of the hill very quickly.

It replaces the old rope two and the aging T-bar and once stage two of the lift is reay, it will also give increased access to the front side runs like Banana and Lovers Lane.

Last Saturday the reviews were great.

Especially for the younger set who will be using the lift for easy access to terrain fixtures, rails and jumps.

It will also facilitate access during race days and snowboard and ski-cross events on the Banana Run.

The resort opens for it's Christmas schedule on Saturday December 18 and is open every day (except Christmas) right through to Sunday January 9.

After that the ski area is open Wednesday to Sunday every week.

Manager Chris Bishop says that the resort will be offering a number of great deals on opening week.

"We're opening with pre-Christmas 50 percent savings for our guests," says Bishop. The deals apply to lift Tickets, daily lessons, ski & snowboard rentals from Dec. 18-24.

Webb suggests that parents interested in the Christmas kids development camps should probably get in touch with the ski school ASAP.

Webb says the school is running a five day camp for kids and beginners – all ages and categories – from Dec 27 to January 1.

Webb added that the hill and ski school is also preparing for the Winterfest Senior Games in February. The hill will play host to the seniors slalom events.

The Sir Sam's Ski Challenge registration is slated for Saturday, Jan 7 and the season's first race happens on Sunday, Jan. 8.

Forecast is calling for a lot of snow just in time for the Christmas week opening on Saturday.

Find Sir Sam's sirsams.com or phone at 705-754-2298. □

In SIRCH of the Perfect Christmas SIRCH Community Services

We extend a heartfelt thank you to the following businesses and individuals for their generous support to make In SIRCH of the Perfect Christmas a success.

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Best Booth Award:

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just in time for Christmas!

do something
dramatic
this summer



Highlands
Summer
Festival
2011

What's on stage this summer



What a fantastic way to open the season! Canada's sweetheart show, *Anne of Green Gables-The Musical* has been running to packed houses in Charlottetown, PEI for over 40 years. The musical has been performed continuously ever since 1965. *Anne of Green Gables-The Musical* is based on the novel, *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy Maud Montgomery. The book is by Don Harron, the music is by Norman Campbell and the lyrics by Don Harron, Norman Campbell, Elaine Campbell and Mavor Moore. A great show for all ages, *Anne of Green Gables-The Musical* is full of delightful music and a warm and gentle story about simpler times. We are excited to bring this fun-filled musical to our stage as our opening production this summer.

Looking

This is Canadian playwright Norm Foster at his classic, comedic best. Val's an operating room nurse, Andy's in the storage business, Nina's a police officer and Matt's a radio morning show host. They're middle-aged, single and, as the name of the play notes, they are all "looking". Val agrees to meet Andy after answering his personal ad in the newspaper. Nina and Matt are coaxed into joining their friends for support. High romance and contagious laughter are the result.

Educating Rita

A young hairdresser and an English literature professor are both frustrated with their lots in life. Rita believes that going back to school will provide the stimulus for change. The professor, meanwhile, finds solace in the bottle. When their paths cross, the transformation they are both looking for arrives in a variety of surprising ways. A comedy by Willy Russell, this stage play was turned into a popular movie featuring Michael Caine and Julie Walters.

Joan of Montreal

In this one woman show, a young girl recounts her love for Canada's national sport, hockey and then the frustrations encountered as she tries to become part of the game. Brigitte Gall will reprise the role of Joan in this Gemini Award winning script that she also co-wrote with Arlene Bishop, Blair Packham, and David Mackenzie. The television production of *Joan of Montreal* won a Gemini Award in 2000. You can see *Joan of Montreal* Friday, July 22 and Monday August 8.

Archibald and Regina

David Archibald is back on the Highlands Summer Festival stage with his unique brand of music and relaxed acoustic presentation. This time he is sharing the stage with Highlands Summer Festival veteran Jocelyn Regina actress, singer and song-writer. This pairing will be a delightful combination of youthful exuberance and experience brought together by outstanding shared musical talent. The concert will include many of their own compositions. Concert appearances are scheduled for Monday, July 11, Friday, July 29 and Monday, August 1.

Excerpts Concerts

The participants in the Highlands Opera Studio present some of the best loved works from the world of opera. Hear solos, duets and ensemble selections from famous operas from around the world. A different program for each of the concerts. Three Concerts, Friday, August 12 at the Minden United Church, and Thursday and Friday, August 18 and 19 at the theatre in Haliburton.

The Medium

by Gian Carlo Menotti:

Madame Flora is terrified when she perceives a supernatural presence during one of her fraudulent séances. Angered with her teenage child and mute servant she employs to perpetrate the séances, she lashes out at them, but then becomes convinced that she did in fact contact the dead when the hand of one of the departed crossed hers during the last reading. Menotti's first international success, *The Medium* is a tragedy in two acts for five singers. One performance only on Saturday August 20 at the theatre in Haliburton.

Falstaff

by Giuseppe Verdi

The season comes to a grand finale with four performances of the Verdi opera *Falstaff*. Based on Shakespeare's *Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Henry IV*, *Falstaff* was only one of two comedies written by Verdi. It was also his last. One reviewer noted: *Falstaff* has long been an admired favourite with critics and musicians because of its brilliant orchestration, scintillating libretto and refined melodic invention. It is in the standard repertoire of many opera companies. Four performances: Friday, August 26, a matinee on Sunday, August 28, Tuesday, August 30 and Thursday, September 1.

Season Passes for 2011

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Highlands Opera Studio Master Classes,
the first Excerpts Concert and the Faculty Concert
take place at the Minden United Church.

Photo from 2010 season by Lorne Campbell

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Summer
Festival**
2011

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Storm Bantam AEs Silver Stick Semi Finalists

The Highland Storm Bantam AE team opened up the Silver Stick tournament facing the Glanbrook Rangers. The Storm found themselves down 2-0 very quickly due to a couple of bad bounces. The defensive corps of Connor Gadway, Loic Muli, Angus Sullivan, and Stuart Searle along with goalie Logan Churko refused to collapse and shut the door on the Rangers of-fence.

Braden Roberts got the offence started as he stepped around a defender and then tucked home his own rebound. Lucas Esson followed with a goal, using the defenseman as a screen his hard whister found the top corner of the net. Roberts tallied again with 21 seconds left in the second period to give the Storm the lead for good. Hunter Bishop scored early in the third and Esson roofed one from in tight to up the lead to 3. Glanbrook scored to get them within two. Braden Roberts completed his hat trick with an empty net goal at the buzzer to end the game 6-3.

In their second contest the Storm took on the Campbellford Colts. In a tight checking affair Mac Monk-Cray opened the scoring late in the first period. The Colts collected the next two markers and led by one most of the game. The heroics were left to Braden Roberts, who scored

on a power play at 1:51 of the third after a nice set up by Ryan Casey and Hunter Bishop. Logan Churko was called upon to make some dramatic saves in the last minute to preserve the 2-2 tie.

The Storm entered the third game of the day facing the Tweed Hawks and knowing that a victory would secure them first place in the division. Both teams looked lethargic at the out-set but battled with all they had left in the tank. Tweed controlled the play but despite numerous opportunities they could not beat goalie Logan Churko who turned back the Hawks time and again. Hunter Bishop ended the deadlock by finding a Connor Gadway rebound and stuffing it into the back of the net. The victory secured first place for the Storm and a berth in the semi finals.

The Storm finally fell to defeat in the semi-fi-nals. They faced a strong Lindsay Muskies team and lost 7-0. The team put forth a strong effort and didn't quit. Goalie, Logan Churko kept the Muskies at bay well into the third before things fell apart. The pressure put forth by the Lindsay team culminated with a five goal third period. Despite the loss coaches Drew Bishop and Steve Churko were pleased with the team's efforts.

Submitted by Doug Sullivan □



Storm goalie Logan Churko stops another one in tense Silver Stick action. Photo by Gav.

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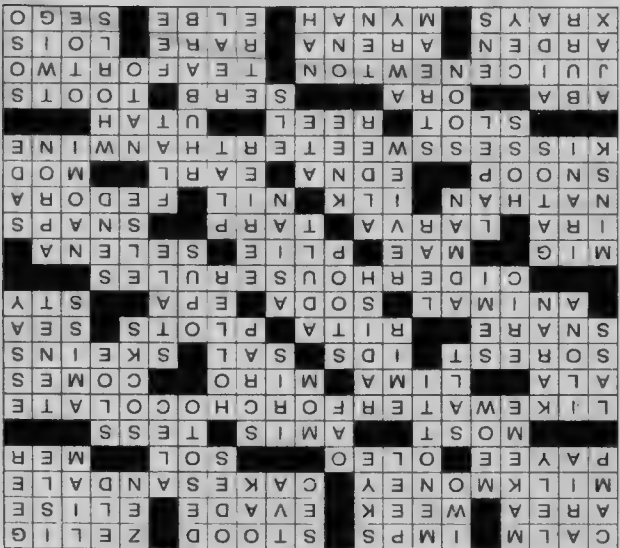
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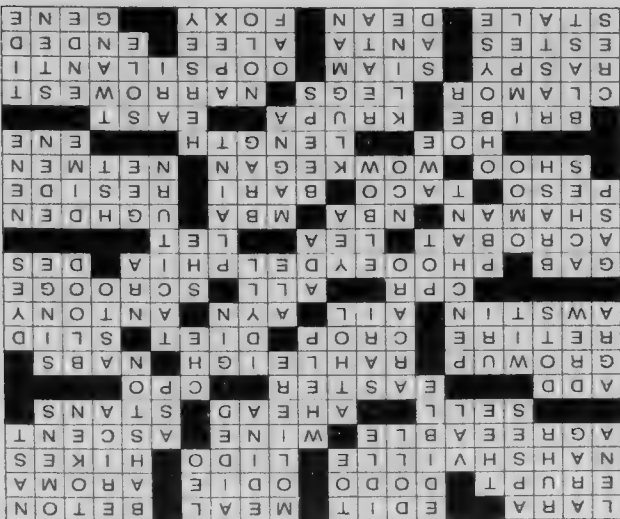
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Answers

Super Crossword

Last weeks answers



Answers

Super Crossword



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For a full job description or to apply please contact:

Heather Reid c/o

U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research

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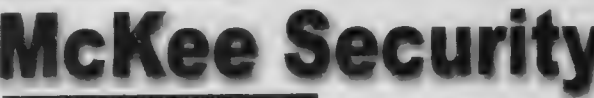
Applications must be received by January 14, 2011.

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THU. DEC. 30 th	CLOSED
FRI. DEC. 31 st	9:00 am to 12:00 pm
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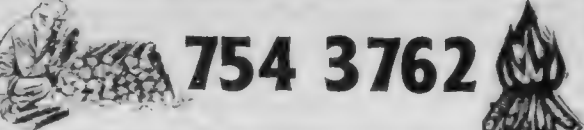
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Super Crossword

LIQUIDITY

ACROSS

1 Still
5 Little devils
9 Lost a lap
14 '83 Woody Allen film
19 — code
20 Year segment
21 Dodge
22 Beethoven dedicatee
23 Melanie Griffith movie
25 W. Somerset Maugham work
27 Check recipient
28 Marge in the fridge
30 Impresario Hurok
31 "Mal de —"
32 More than more
34 Author Martin
38 Dick Tracy's love
41 Laura Esquivel novel
50 Southern st.
51 Green bean
52 Artist Joan
53 Arrives
54 Most painful
57 Drivers' lics., e.g.
59 Bando of baseball
60 Yam purchases
61 — drum

62 Coolidge or Gam
64 Conspires
66 Where the buoys are
67 Dachshund or dik-dik
70 Pop
72 Antipollution grp.
73 Porker's palace
74 With "The," John Irving book
79 Russian jet
82 Dogpatch's Daisy —
83 Ballet movement
84 "Dreaming of You" singer
87 Private pension
88 Insect stage
90 Canvas cover
92 Layette fasteners
94 Patriot Hale
96 Kind
98 Zilch
99 Sardou drama
100 Be nosy
101 Actress Purviance
103 Mount-batten's rank
105 Like Austin Powers
106 Jimmie Rodgers hit

112 — machine
113 Stagger
114 Loretta Young's birthplace
115 Lawyers' org.
118 — pro nobis
120 Certain Slav
123 Restaurateur Shor
127 "Angel of the Morning" singer
133 "No, No, Nanette" song
135 Actress Eve
136 Basketball venue
137 Valuable
138 Chiles or Nettleton
139 Baggage checkers?
140 Sociable starling
141 German river
142 — lily

DOWN

1 "Friday the 13th" setting
2 Sayao solo
3 Painter Peter
4 "You — Feel Like Dancing" ('76 hit)
5 — Jima
6 "The Consul" composer
7 Role for Rigg
8 — terrier
9 Wine word
10 Dam org.
11 Acorn, eventually
12 Poems of praise
13 Spanish explorer
14 Road to enlightenment
15 Antiquity, archaically
16 Novelist O'Flaherty
17 Tropical spot
18 Will of "The Waltons"
24 Catty remark?
26 Baldwin of "Outside Providence"
29 Lout
33 It's good in a pinch
35 Morticia, to Pugsley
36 Rainbow goddess
37 Remnant
39 White House pet
40 — gin fizz
41 Glasgow girl
42 Actress Massey
43 Designer Donna
44 Islamic ruler
45 Salad veggie

46 Shout
47 Off the mark
48 Belief
49 Lamb product
55 95 Down's real name
56 Big rig
58 Bend
60 No longer fresh
63 Man or stallion
65 Artistic output
68 Big pitcher?
69 Tragic monarch
71 Laotian native
75 Study for exams
76 More macabre
77 Or — (threat words)
78 "You — Me" ('57 hit)
79 Capital of Belarus
80 Persian, presently
81 Los —, CA
85 Ruth's mother-in-law
86 Chef's shield?
88 Stickpin locale
89 Cabinet wood
91 Realty map

93 Mean Marquis
95 "Bonanza" brother
97 Patella's place
99 Insipid
102 Dug in
104 Pie filling
107 Any time now
108 Flow
109 High rails
110 West. alliance
111 Spirals
115 Trojan War hero
116 Raymond of "Godzilla"
117 "Celeste —" (Verdi aria)
119 Crooked
121 Raison d'—
122 Authentic
124 Nebraska native
125 Baby branch
126 Mediocre
128 Dodger Ron
129 Minnesota twins?
130 Hamilton bill
131 Out — limb
132 Slangy negative
134 Service charge

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at noon on December 31.

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Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newman



Shrinking Ozone Hole

The ozone hole above Antarctica is now the smallest it has been in five years, according to New Zealand's National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research. The institute says the hole in the protective layer of stratospheric ozone decreased in size to about 8.5 million square miles, compared to 9.25 million square miles last year. The ozone hole forms during the end of the southern winter in August and September of each year, then breaks up in November or December, according to the institute. Recent studies point to a nearly complete recovery of the ozone hole by the middle of this century, thanks to a international agreement to phase out the use of ozone-depleting chemicals, such as Freon in refrigerators and aerosol cans.

Emerging Mystery

Ugandan health officials say they are working "around the clock" with international health experts to identify a mysterious disease that has killed at least 38 people in the north of the country. All of the fatalities have been adult men, and a total of 91 people had contracted the disease as of Dec. 8. Symptoms include headache, fever and vomiting blood, but Ebola and bubonic plague have so far been ruled out as the cause. Ugandan health workers say they have developed a treatment that has so far halted the death toll at 38.

Earthquakes

A moderate tremor shook southern parts of Taiwan, but there were no reports of damage or injuries.

• Earth movements were also felt in the far southern Philippines, around New Zealand's capital of Wellington, western India and Jamaica.

Israeli Conflagration

Israeli and international firefighters finally brought a firestorm under control that killed 42 people as it raged through the Carmel forest near the port of Haifa for four days. It was Israel's worst wildfire on record. The blazes blackened roughly 20 square miles of woodland, a relatively small area considering previous huge American and recent Russian wildfires. But only 7 percent of Israel is covered by forest, making the fires particularly significant to the country. Guy Pe'er, one of the authors of Israel's first report to the U.N. on climate change, says the Carmel fire disaster is a typical example of climate change effects, and a glimpse of what a future of global warming will likely bring. The Israeli report cautioned a decade ago that the frequency, intensity and extent of wildfires would increase due to more droughts, evaporation and heat waves.

Gorillas Rebound

The population of the critically endangered mountain gorilla rose by more than a quarter over the past seven years, a sign that conservationists say proves their efforts are paying off. A census of the primates living in a volcanic mountain ecosystem, stretching through parts of three East African countries, shows the population rose by 100 to 480 by 2010, according to the International Gorilla Conservation Program. "The mountain gorilla is the only one of the nine subspecies of African great apes experiencing a population increase," said David Greer, African Great Ape Coordinator at the World Wildlife Fund, which is one of several conservation groups funding the program. The long-term survival of Africa's non-human primates is threatened by hunting, destruction of habitat and their capture for the illegal pet trade.

Throat of Fire

Explosive activity at Ecuador's Tungurahua volcano sent nearby villagers fleeing their homes as the mountain spewed rocks, gas and ash above the Andes. Authorities advise all those living within five miles of the mountain to evacuate. Tungurahua, which means "throat of fire" in the local Quechua language, has been erupting off and on since it roared to life in 1999. An eruption that year prompted authorities to forcibly evacuate the 15,000 residents of Banos. Ongoing activity kept them from returning home for a year. An eruption in August 2006 left six people dead and hundreds of homes destroyed.

Terrible Hairy Fly

A pair of insect specialists has come across a mythical and bizarre species of fly in its tiny Kenyan habitat for the first time since it was initially discovered in 1933 and rediscovered 1948. The Terrible Hairy Fly, or *Mormotomyia hirsuta*, is believed to live only in a 65-foot-high rock cleft in Kenya's Ukazi Hills. Dipterists Robert Copeland and Ashley Kirk-Spriggs say the insect is unable to fly and is partial to breeding in bat feces. Its non-functioning wings have evolved into protrusions that appear similar to belt loops. "The fly has no obvious adaptations for clinging onto other animals for transfer from one place to another. With its long legs, it could perhaps wrap itself around a bat and get a ride... but it's never been found elsewhere," Copeland told Reuters. The researchers say they are conducting molecular analysis to see where the Terrible Hairy Fly fits into the evolutionary tree of life.

Distributed by: Universal Uclick
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Horoscopes

BORN THIS WEEK: You like challenges that are both mental and physical, and you enjoy always beating your personal best.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Handle a potentially awkward situation by warming up your confidence reserves and letting it radiate freely. Also, expect an old friend to contact you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) The revelation of a secret could cause some changes in how to deal with a workplace matter. It very likely also validates a position you have long held.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) It's not too early for the practical Bovine to begin planning possible changes for 2011. A recent contact can offer some interesting insights.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) An attempt to get too personal could upset the very private Scorpio. Make it clear that there's a line no one crosses without your permission.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A request for an unusual favor should be carefully checked out. Also check the motives behind it. Your generosity should be respected, not exploited.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The savvy Sagittarian might be able to keep a family disagreement from spilling over by getting everyone involved to talk things out.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Party time beckons, but for some Moon Children, so do some workplace challenges. Deal with the second first, then you'll be free to enjoy the fun time.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Be careful not to push people too hard to meet your ideas of what the holiday weekend's preparations should be. Best to make it a cooperative, not a coerced, effort.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A warm response to an earlier request might be a positive indicator of what's ahead. Meanwhile, Cupid could pay a surprise visit to single Leos looking for love.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) An unexpected request could make you rethink a position you've had for a long time. Meanwhile, plan a family get-together for the weekend.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) How you respond to a proposed change in a project could affect your situation. Be prepared to show how well you would be able to deal with it.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Someone might find that it was a fluke to try to use your sympathetic nature to get you to accept a situation you're not comfortable with. Good for you.

Health Unit Holiday Hours

The Health Unit office will be closed for the holiday season on: December 23, 24, 27, 30 and 31.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season from the staff of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

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Weather Watch

THURSDAY



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▲ -4° ▼ -9°

FRIDAY



Partly cloudy and continued chilly

▲ -3° ▼ -9°

SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy with morning flurries

▲ -4° ▼ -9°

SUNDAY



Mostly cloudy

▲ -4° ▼ -10°

MONDAY



Mostly cloudy

▲ -4° ▼ -4°

TUESDAY



Windy with snow showers

▲ -4° ▼ -10°

WEDNESDAY



Windy and cold with snow showers

▲ -6° ▼ -12°

Lotto Numbers

Your unofficial lotto numbers

LOTTO
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ENCORE 2261937

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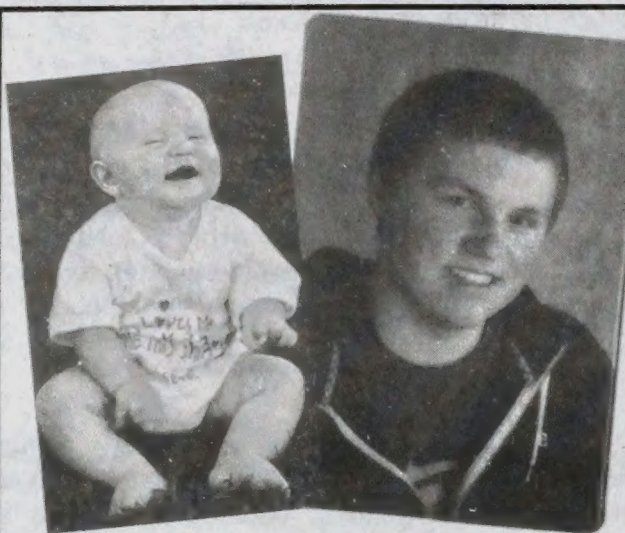
Mondays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. **PLEASE NOTE:**Finders Keepers will be **CLOSED** for a family Christmas on Sat. Dec. 18, and reopening Sun. Dec. 19.

We apologize for any inconvenience!

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Same great guy but with hair and teeth!
 Lots of love on your 16 birthday Jonah!
 Love Momma, Poppa, Kelly and Scott

GRUMPY'S TAXI

It's Christmas...

Santa & his elves are very busy

once again. The elves at

Grumpy's Taxi will be

offering **Free** transportation

for those needing to pick up at

The 4 C's Santa's Workshop

Dec 16th - Call 457-2276

Have a very Merry Christmas

Carol, Stan & Staff

To all the 4 C's volunteers...

you are **GREATLY** appreciated

Bread For Life

Need a Helping Hand in 2011?

Come join us at the

BREAD FOR LIFE DINER

The first Friday of every month

Share a free hot meal and

good conversation with your neighbours

Starting **Friday, January 7, 2011**

At the Minden Hills Community Centre

Doors open at 12:00

Lunch served from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Community Helping Community

 For more information, please call 705-286-0700
 highlandlakescc.weebly.com

BRING IN 2011

new years

HALIBURTON
AT THE
LEGION


FEATURING THE BAND 50/50

You've enjoyed this band throughout Haliburton County at "Music By The Gull", "Midnight Madness", "Stanhope Heritage Days" and other functions. Now come & enjoy the band at the best New Year's deal in the County.

ONLY \$25 FOR A
 WONDERFUL NIGHT
 AT YOUR HALIBURTON LEGION

Great Food with
 Hot & Cold Buffet
 Music for Rock
 and Country Fans

For tickets,
 visit the Legion

or call Carla 457-2571

A MISSION OF LOVE 6

A Free Delicious
 Traditional Turkey Dinner
 for anyone on

Christmas Day

Time: 5:00 pm

Please call to register by Dec. 17th

Lakeside Baptist Church @ 457-2851

Steve & Stephanie Smith @ 457-3394

or Sue Bain @ 457-2570

Lakeside Baptist
 Church
 9 Park Street
 Haliburton, ON
 457-2851

County Voice

EASY TO READ

Classifieds

CALL (705)457-5001

For Sale

NEW COMPLETE SEPTIC SYSTEMS. 30 Years of experience in Minden and Haliburton area. We take care of all paperwork and permits. Fully licensed, health unit inspected. Call for a free estimate, Brent Coltman Trucking and Excavating at 705-286-3952 or 1-800-357-8711 (TFN)

FOR SALE – Nicely seasoned firewood Dunloe Farms West Guilford, Delivery available. Call 705-754-3034. (TFN)

FOR SALE – 4 bedroom house, 2 bathroom – private sale in Haliburton Village, on prestigious Riverside Drive, 150 ft river frontage. New furnace, sauna, central vac, town sewage. Call 705-455-9881. (TFN)

FOR SALE – Dry firewood for sale. James Reynolds 705-455-9186. (Jan A)

For Sale

FOR SALE – 1990 GLX Skidoo liquid, carbs just done, electric start and reverse, cover and bags good condition \$1300 – 1990 MX touring skidoo liquid, cover and bags, good condition \$1000. Call 705-286-2190. (Dec C)

FOR SALE – Snowmobile trailer \$700, new Kenmore Heater \$75, 22 Cal Rifle, new Epson printer \$60. Call 705-457-2584. (Dec 16)

FOR SALE – 4 snow tires mounted on wheels size 205-70 R15 \$300 call 705-489-2996. (Dec 23)

FOR SALE – 2000 Chevy Monte Carlo SS, loaded, black with black leather, sunroof, chrome, wheels, well maintained, good shape, 220,000km, certified \$2600OBO call Rich at 705-457-1573. (Dec 16)

For Rent

FOR RENT – One bedroom apartment close to Haliburton, woodland setting and no smoking, heat, hydro, TV and WIFI included, \$600 per month. Call 705-455-9074. (TFN)

FOR RENT – 900 square ft. commercial space available January 1st Main Street, Minden. Call for details 705-286-2121. (TFN)

FOR RENT – Newly available duplex house smoke free very private, large yard, 2 minutes from Haliburton, downsize to maintenance free living. 1- Two bedroom, full kitchen, laundry facilities – 1 – one bedroom, full kitchen, laundry facilities. Details available by calling 705-457-1558, evenings are best time to call. (TFN)

FOR RENT – One bedroom apartment between Minden & Haliburton, \$600 for

For Rent

single & \$650 for couple; utilities included; first and last, references. No smoking/pets. Available January 1, 2011. Pls. call Carmen at 286-0343. (TFN)

FOR RENT – 4 bedroom waterfront home to share, 25 mins out of Haliburton \$500 inclusive, responsible people, inquire only 705-448-1334 leave message. (Dec C)

Services

ODD JOB JACK – Your local handyman – 448-9965. For any and all jobs and snow clearing too, what can we do for you? Email oddjobjack@yahoo.ca (TFN)

FURNITURE RE-FINISHING, HAND-STRIPPING & REPAIRS – High quality workman ship 35yrs experience firm quotation pick-up & delivery available. Stouffer Mill

Services

Furniture Re-Finishing – Don 705-489-3024. (TFN)

THE COMPUTER GUY - Sales, service, networking, in home service available call 705-286-0007. (TFN)

HALIBURTON HANDY MAN – Seniors discount – snow shoving 705-455-9136. (Dec C)

RENOVATIONSPLUS REPAIRS – Chimney sweeping, Mike Thomson 705-457-6365. (Jan A)

S&W COMPUTERS - Sales, service, custom made systems and in home service call 705-286-5014. (Dec 23)

Pets

homes, vet services, “forever” homes, donations, members, fundraisers/volunteers. Help us care for this magnificent breed. Anything you can do would be greatly appreciated. For information please contact us at 1-866-712-8444 or visit www.golden-rescue.net. (TFN)

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Leonard Salvatori
Joe Iles
Andy Salvatori
Michael Iles
Robert Johnston
Leigh Bull
Robert Bullock
Lynn Troke
Marjorie Howard

Jeanne Zahn
Dale Emmerson
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